

# Dark Sector Physics

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Special Thanks also to  
the Physics Beyond Colliders Study Group,  
Claude Vallee and Mike Lamont

# Where we want to go... a mythical story

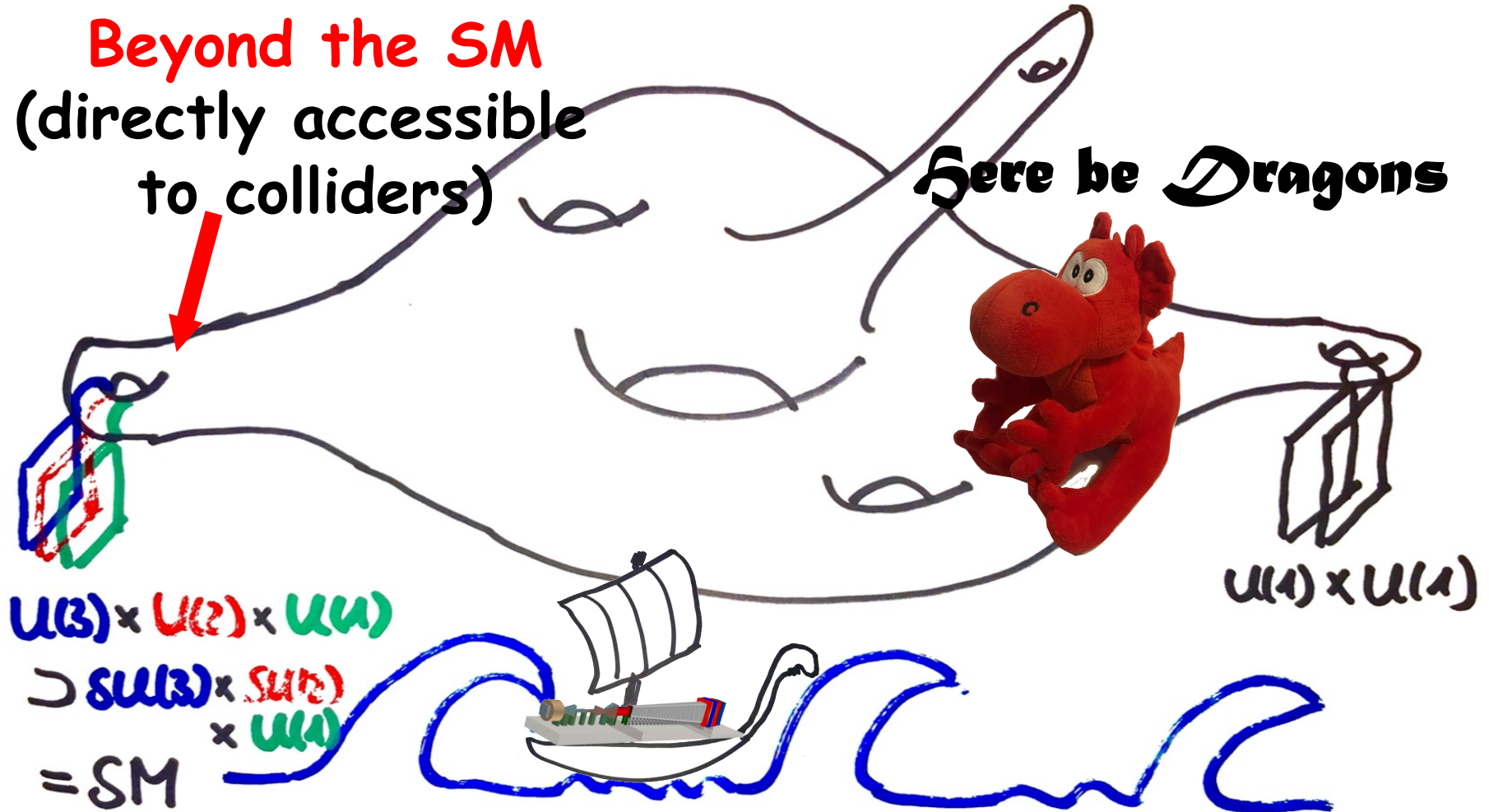
The Standard Model

+

The Hidden Sector

**Beyond the SM**  
(directly accessible  
to colliders)

**Here be Dragons**



$$U(3) \times U(2) \times U(1)$$

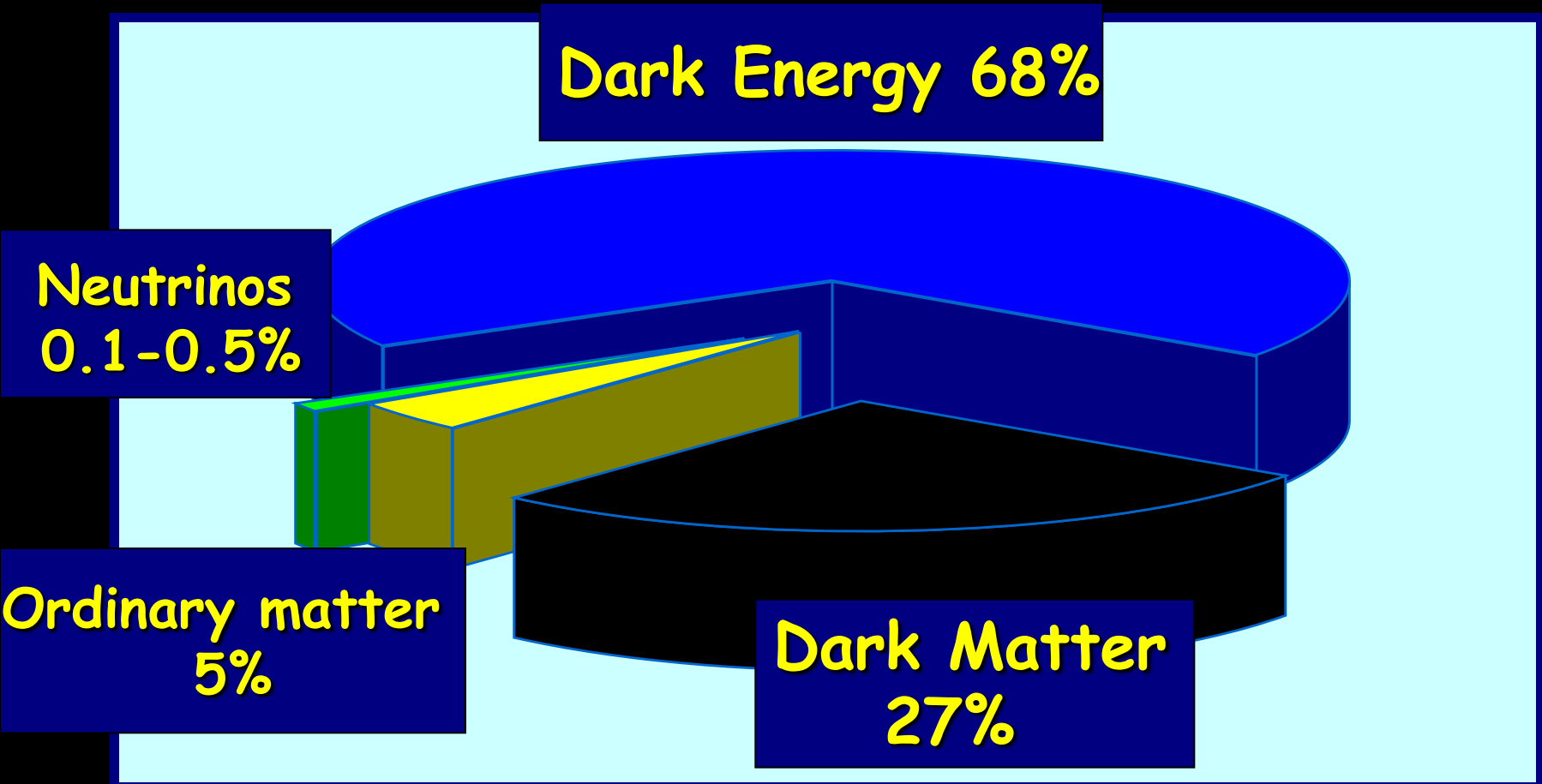
$$\supset SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$$

$$= SM$$

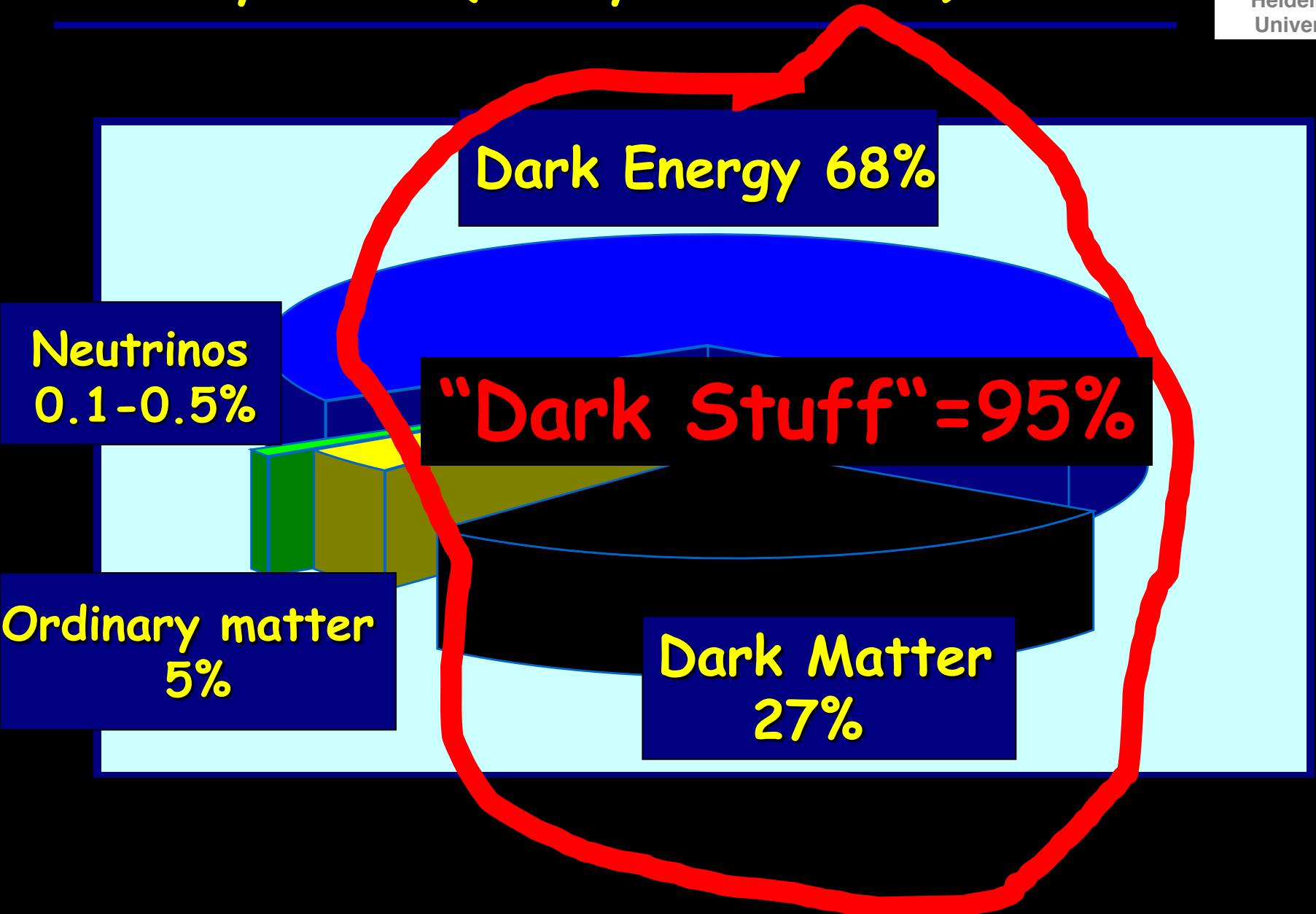
$$U(1) \times U(1)$$

Motivation for  
a dark sector I:  
The Obvious

# Inventory of the (mostly INVISIBLE) Universe



# Inventory of the (mostly INVISIBLE) Universe



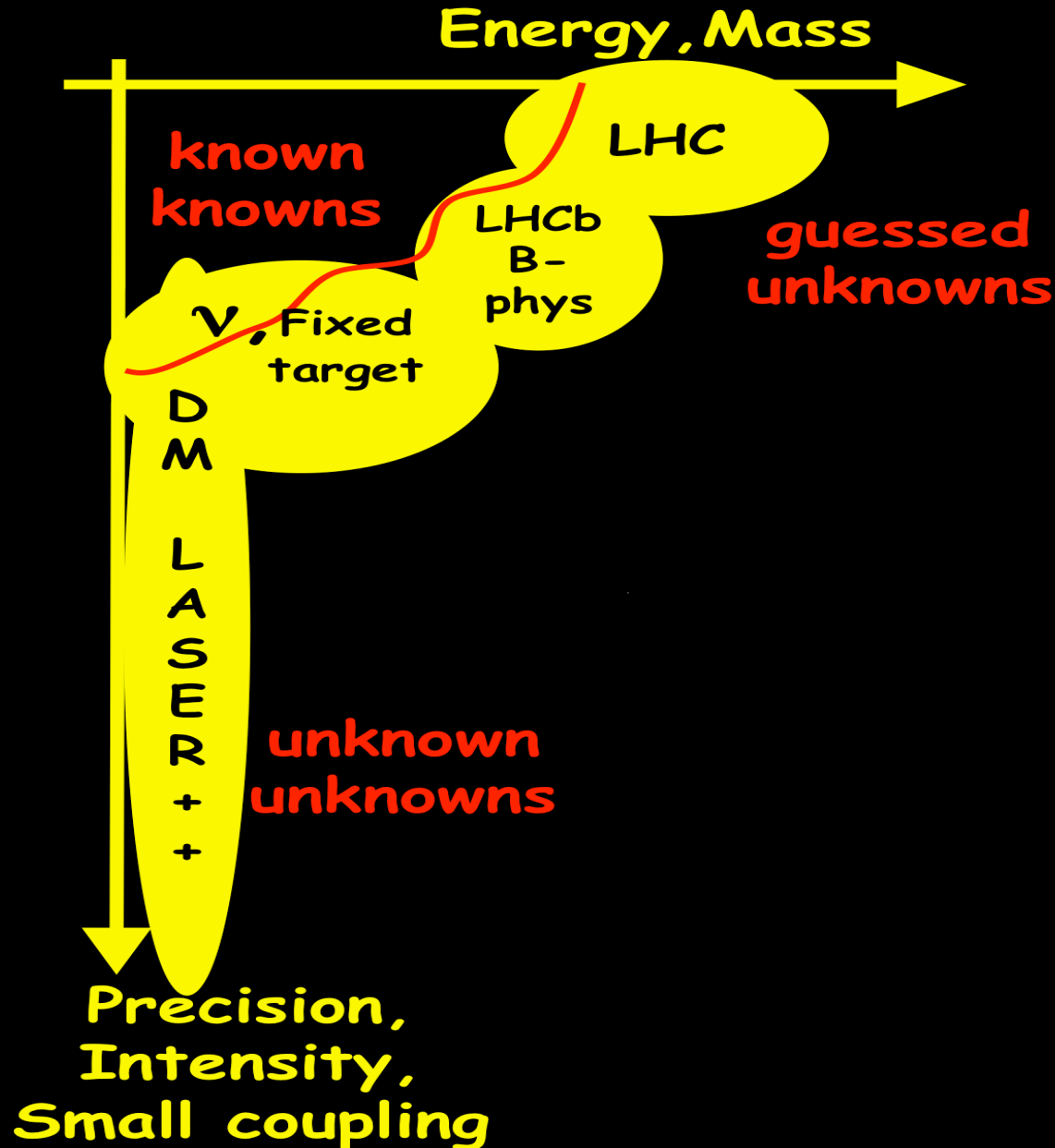
**Working Definition:**

**Dark Sector**

**=**

**Very Weakly coupled to SM**

# Exploring is (at least) 2 dimensional



# Exploring is (at least) 2 dimensional





# Experimental landscape (PBC)

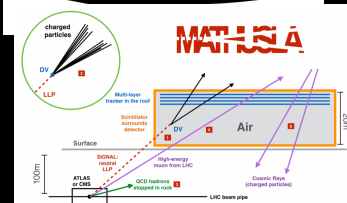
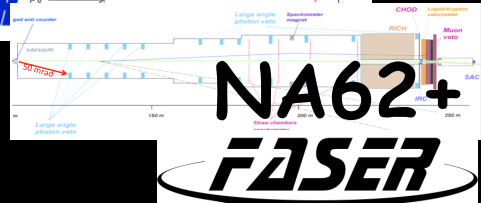
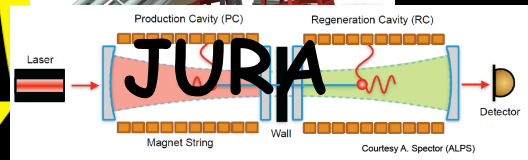
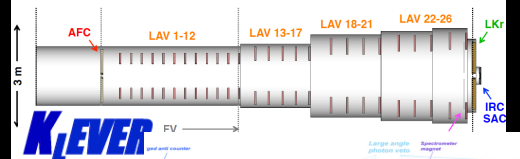
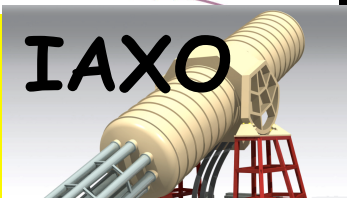
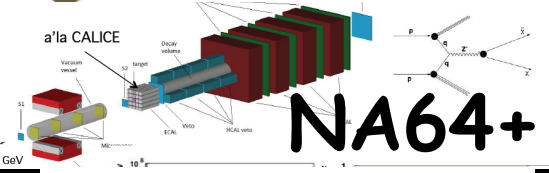
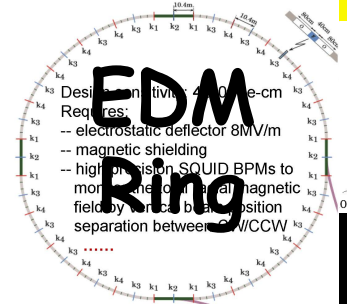
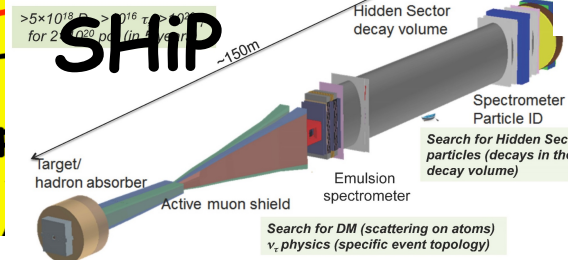
Energy, Mass

known knowns

$\nu$ , Fixed target

LHC

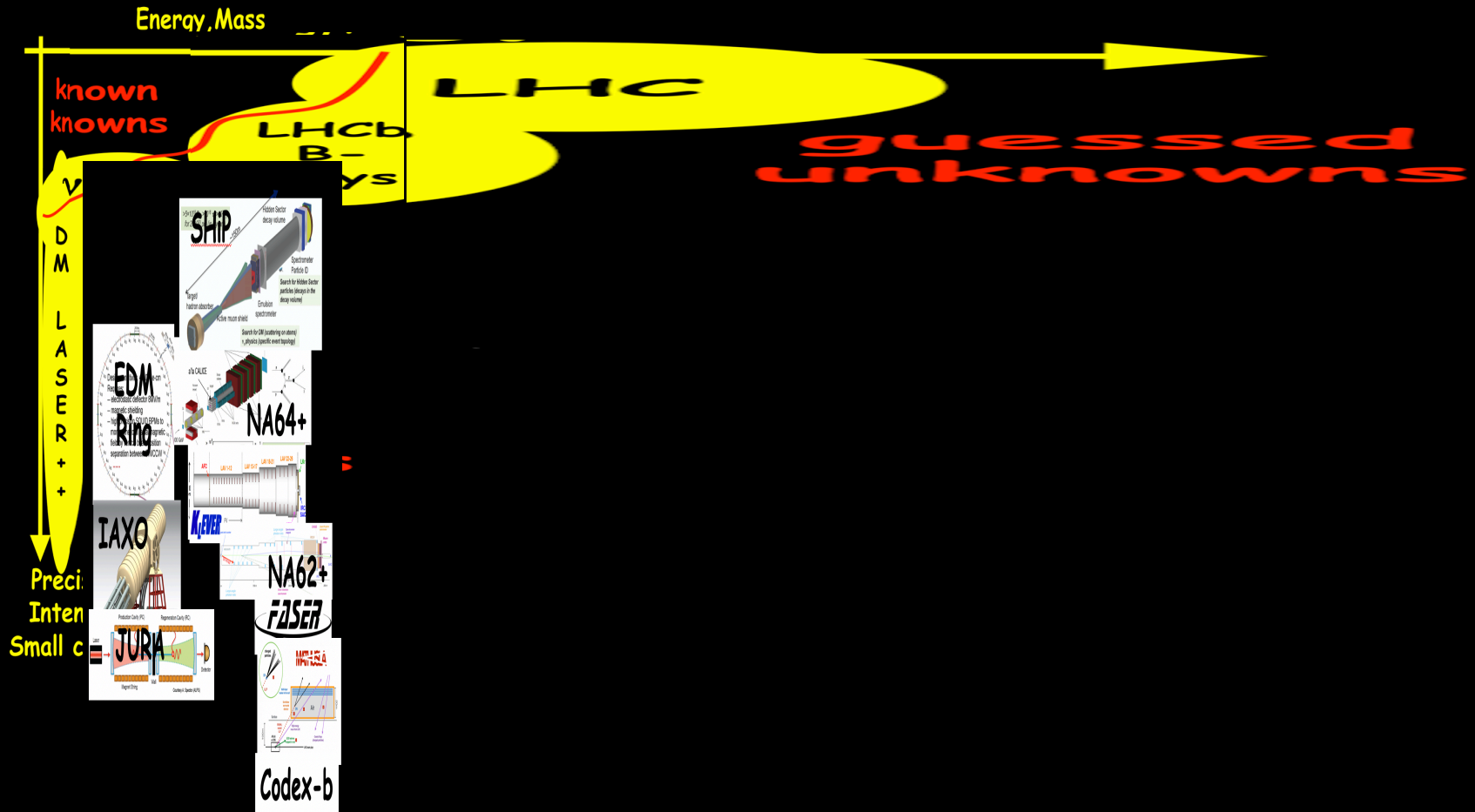
TauFV



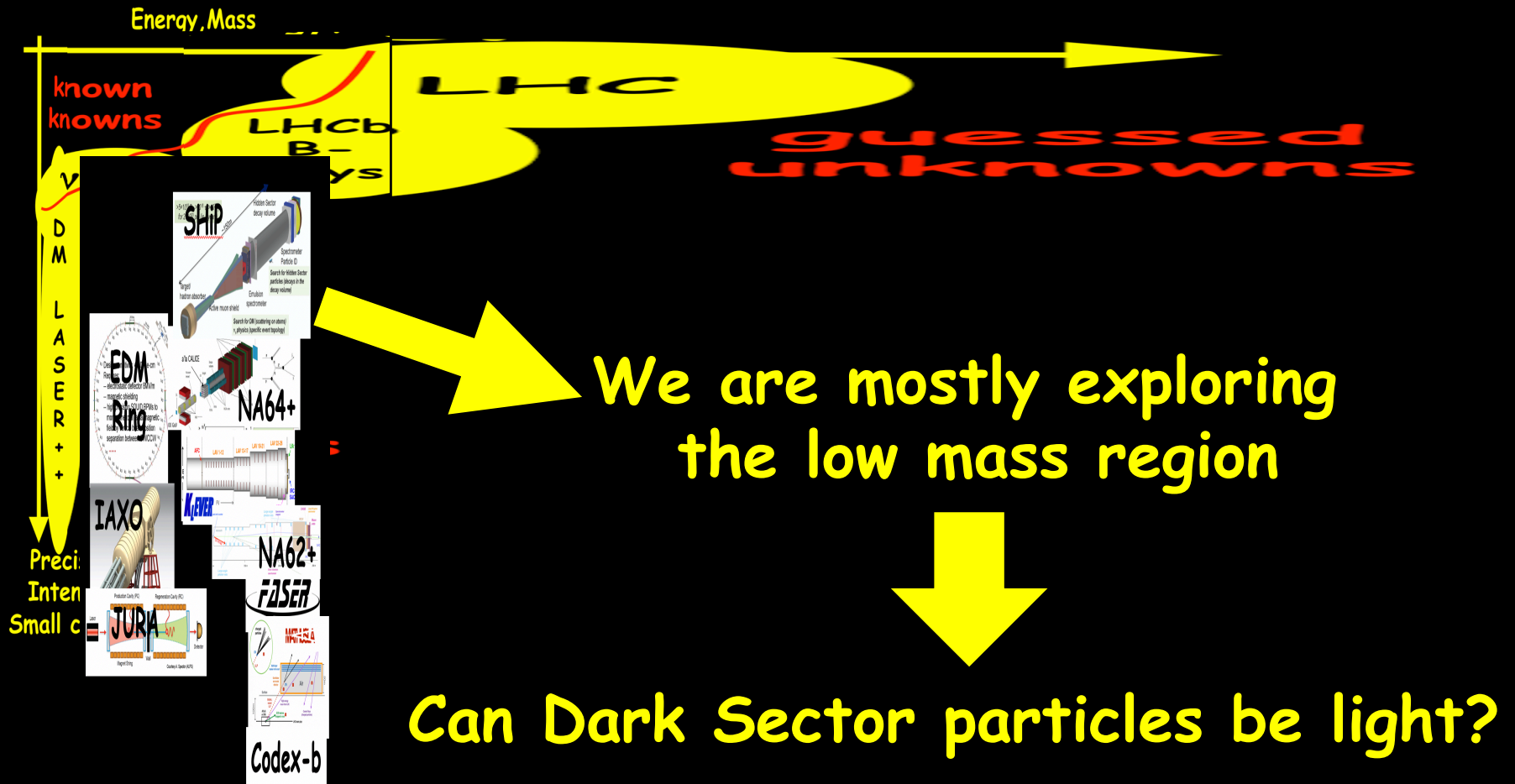
Precision, Intensity, Small coupling

Codex-b

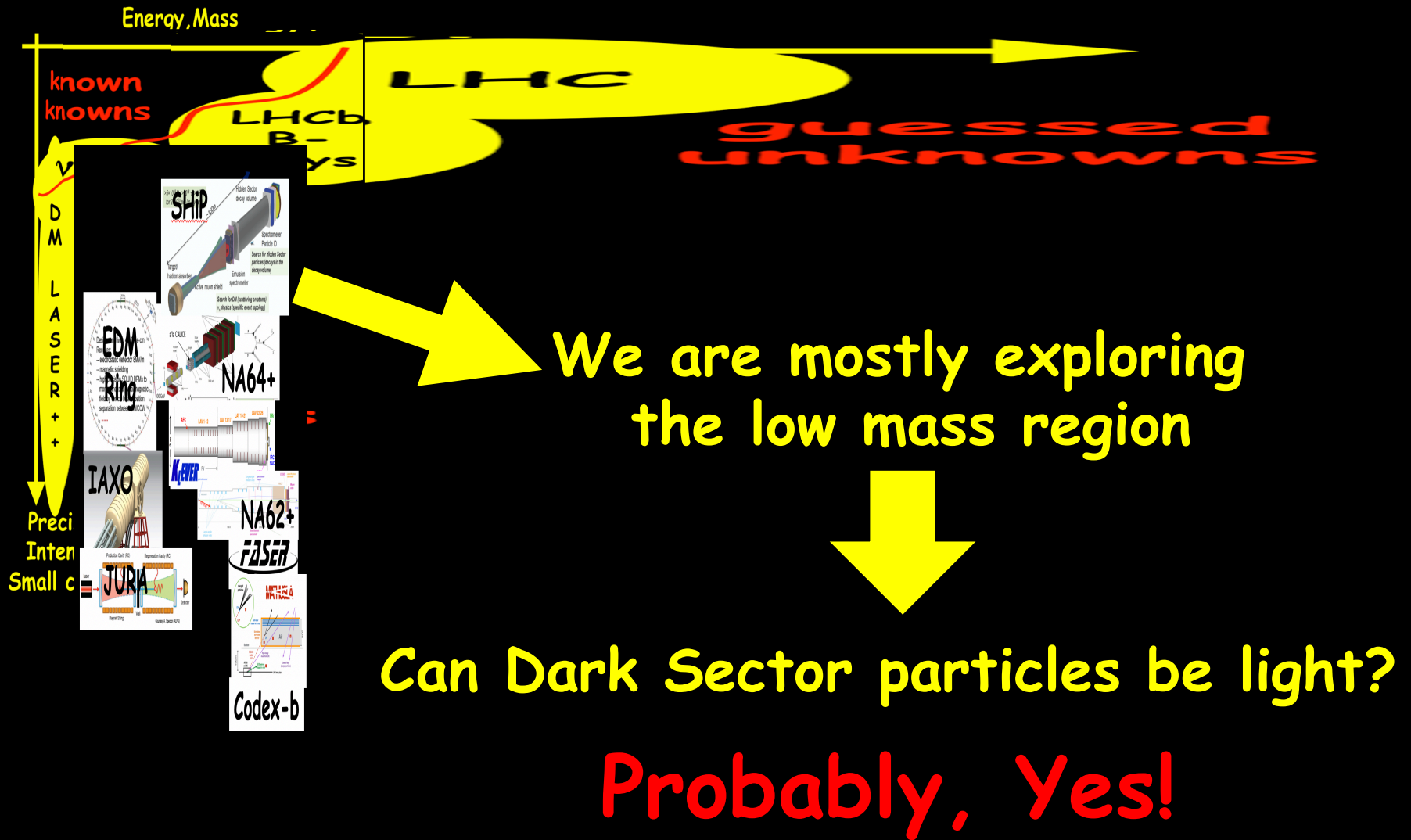
# In "linear" scale



# In "linear" scale



# In "linear" scale



Motivation for  
a dark sector II:  
Model Examples

An example:  
Axions,  
axion like particles,  
general pseudo-Goldstone bosons

This is only an example  
Many more cool and interesting models to test!!!  
see, e.g., 1901.09966

# The example: Axions, axion like particles, general pseudo-Goldstone bosons

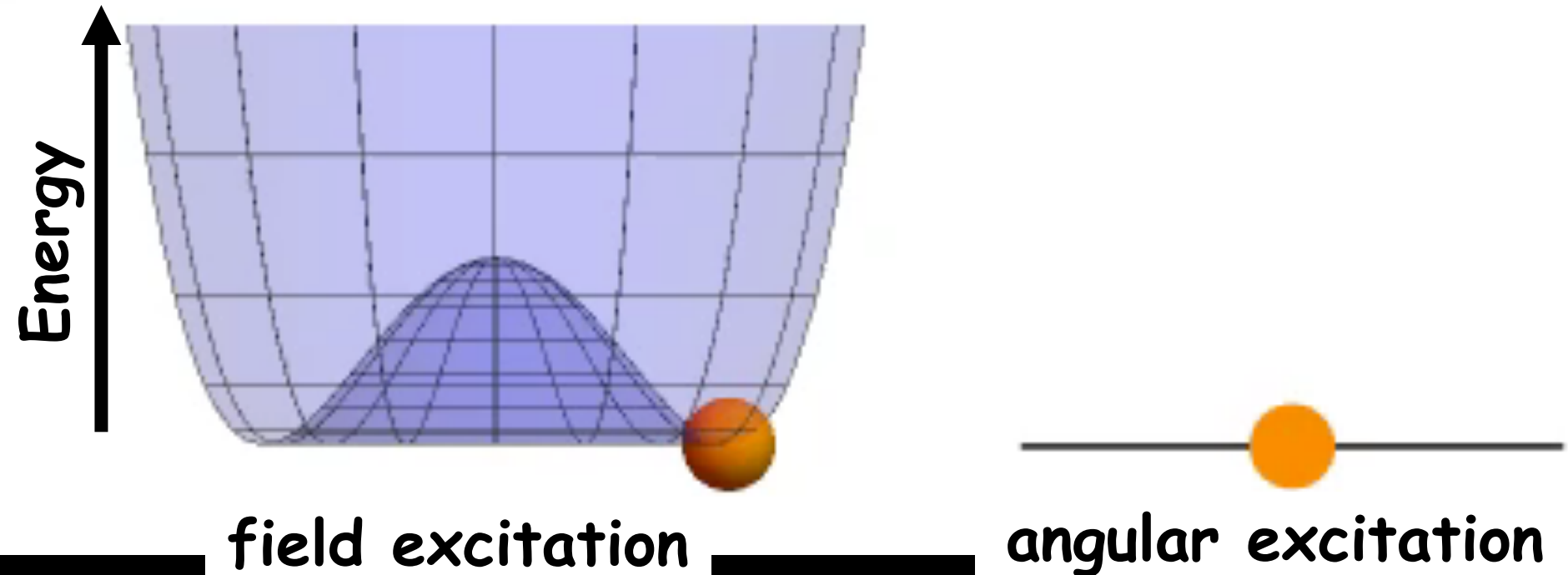
On the Elliptic Calabi-Yau Fourfold with Maximal  $h^{1,1}$

Yi-Nan Wang<sup>a</sup>

ABSTRACT: In this paper, we explicitly construct the smooth compact base threefold for the elliptic Calabi-Yau fourfold with the largest known  $h^{1,1} = 303\,148$ . It is generated by blowing up a smooth toric “seed” base threefold with  $(E_8, E_8, E_8)$  collisions. The 4d F-theory compactification model over it has the largest geometric gauge group,  $E_8^{2\,561} \times F_4^{7\,576} \times G_2^{20\,168} \times SU(2)^{30\,200}$ , and the largest number of axions, 181 820, in the known 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  supergravity landscape. We also prove that there are at least  $1100^{15\,048} \approx 7.5 \times 10^{45\,766}$  different flop phases of this base threefold. Moreover, we find that many other base threefolds with large  $h^{1,1}$  in the 4d F-theory landscape can be constructed in a similar way as well.

# What is a Goldstone Boson?

- Let us start with a  $U(1)$ /rotation symmetric potential



field excitation

angular excitation

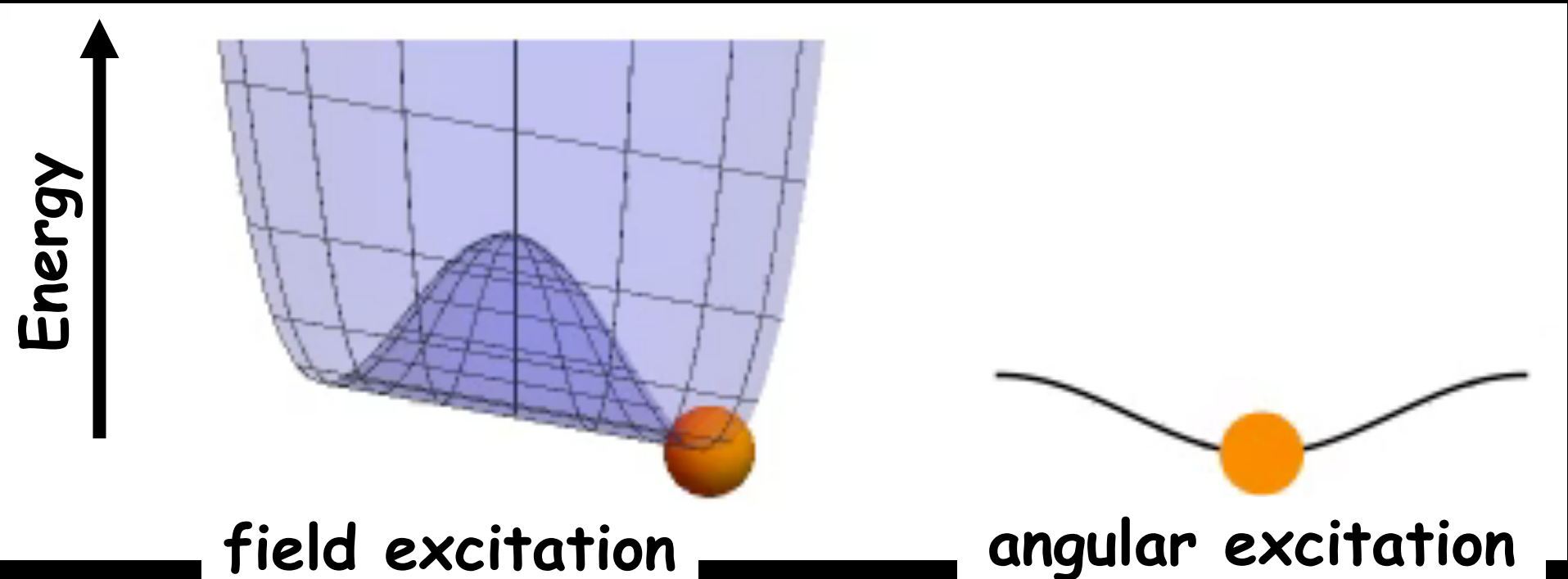
→ If you move along the minimum,  
it costs no energy to move around

→ Particle is massless



# What is a **pseudo-Goldstone Boson**?

- Add a **small breaking** of  $U(1)$ /rotation symmetry

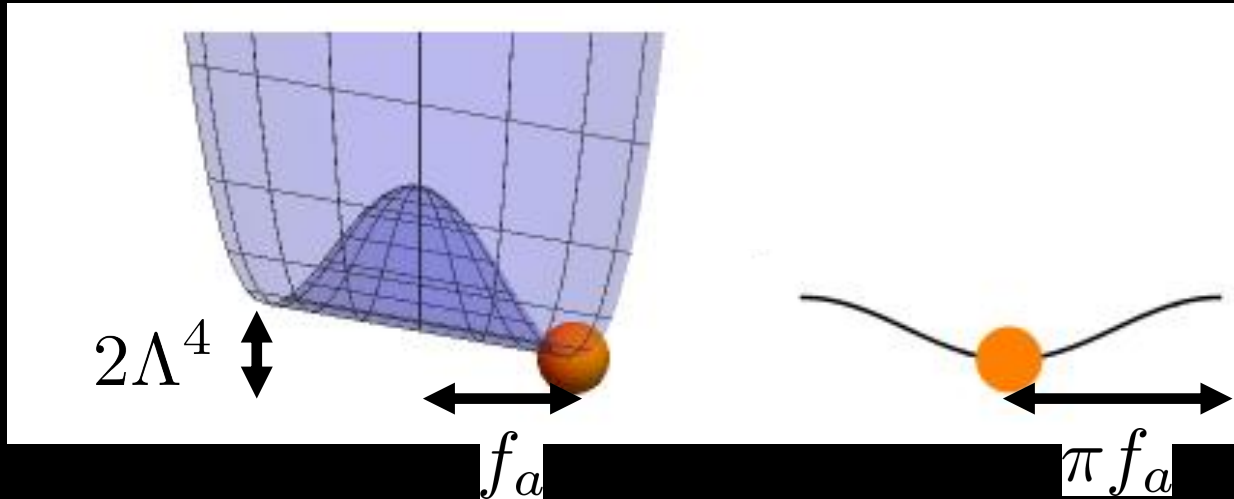


→ If you move along the minimum,  
it costs a little bit of energy

→ Particle has a small mass

# What is a **pseudo-Goldstone Boson**?

- Add a **small breaking** of U(1)/rotation symmetry



$$V(a) = \Lambda^4 \left[ 1 - \cos\left(\frac{a}{f_a}\right) \right]$$

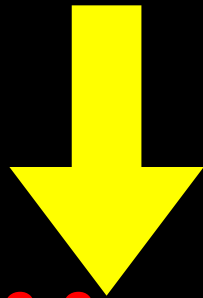
**very small**

$$\text{mass}^2 = m_X^2 = V''(0) = \frac{\Lambda^4}{f_a^2}$$

**small** (pointing to  $\Lambda^4$ )  
**large** (pointing to  $f_a^2$ )

Message:

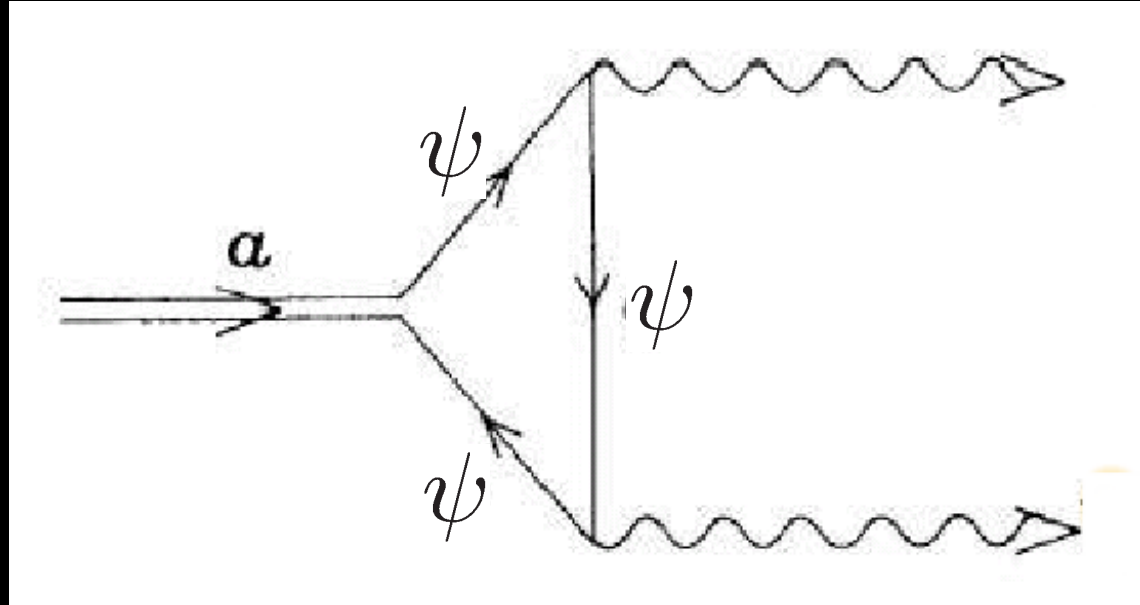
Large scale  $f_a$



Small mass

# Coupling to $F\tilde{F}$ ( $G\tilde{G}$ analog)

- A diagram

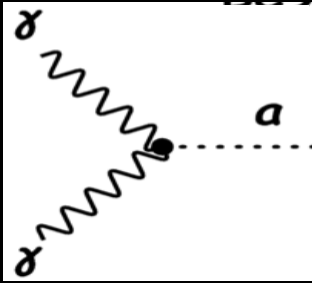


- And a dimensional argument both give:

$$g \sim \frac{1}{m_\psi} \sim \frac{1}{f_a}$$

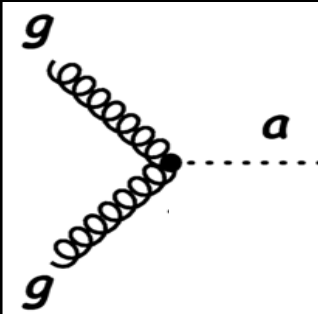
# Couplings fixed by scale of symmetry breaking: $f_a$

- Photon coupling



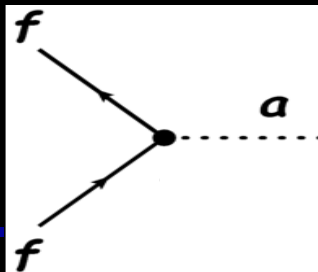
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$
$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f_a}$$

- Gluon coupling



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{agg} a G^\mu \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$$
$$g_{agg} \sim \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi f_a}$$

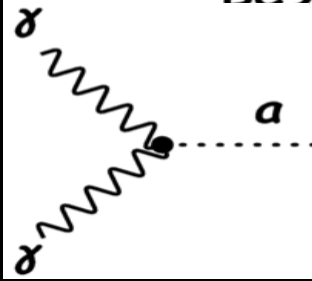
- Fermion couplings



$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_{a\psi\psi} a \bar{\psi} \gamma^5 \psi$$
$$g_{a\psi\psi} \sim \frac{m_\psi}{f_a}$$

# Couplings fixed by scale of symmetry breaking: $f_a$

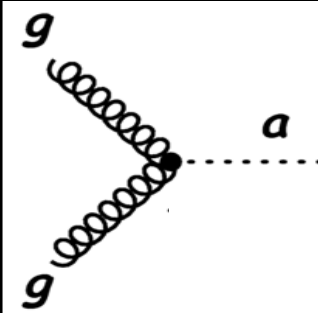
## • Photon coupling



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

small  $\rightarrow$   $g_{a\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{\alpha}{4\pi f_a}$   $\leftarrow$  large

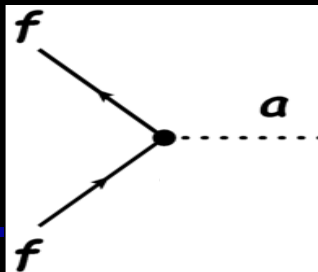
## • Gluon coupling



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{agg} a G^\mu \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}$$

small  $\rightarrow$   $g_{agg} \sim \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi f_a}$   $\leftarrow$  large

## • Fermion couplings

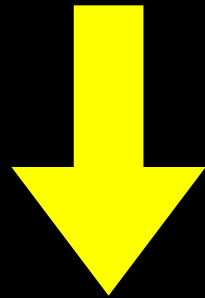


$$\mathcal{L} \supset g_{a\psi\psi} a \bar{\psi} \gamma^5 \psi$$

small  $\rightarrow$   $g_{a\psi\psi} \sim \frac{m_\psi}{f_a}$   $\leftarrow$  large

Message:

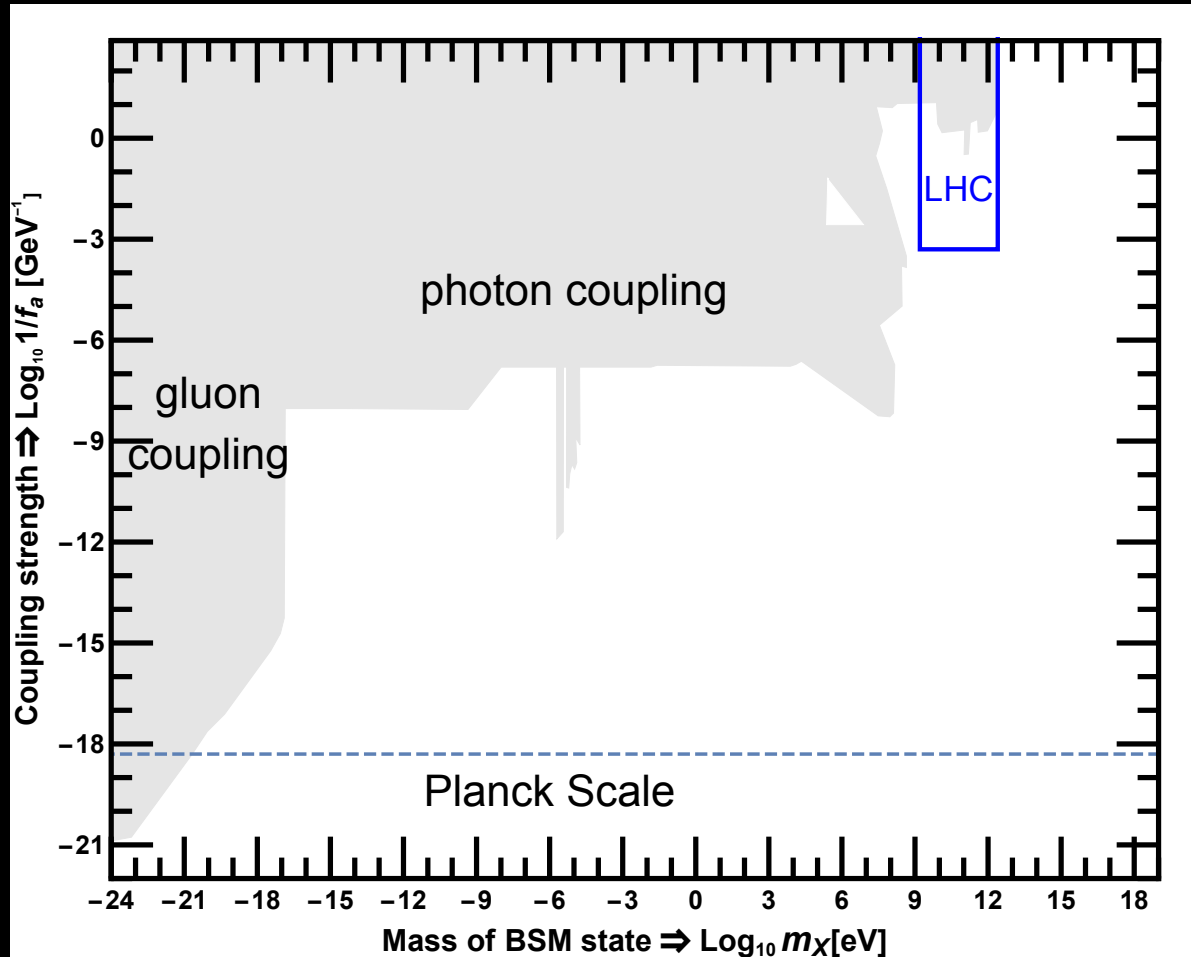
Large scale  $f_a$



Small coupling

# Target space

High  
mass

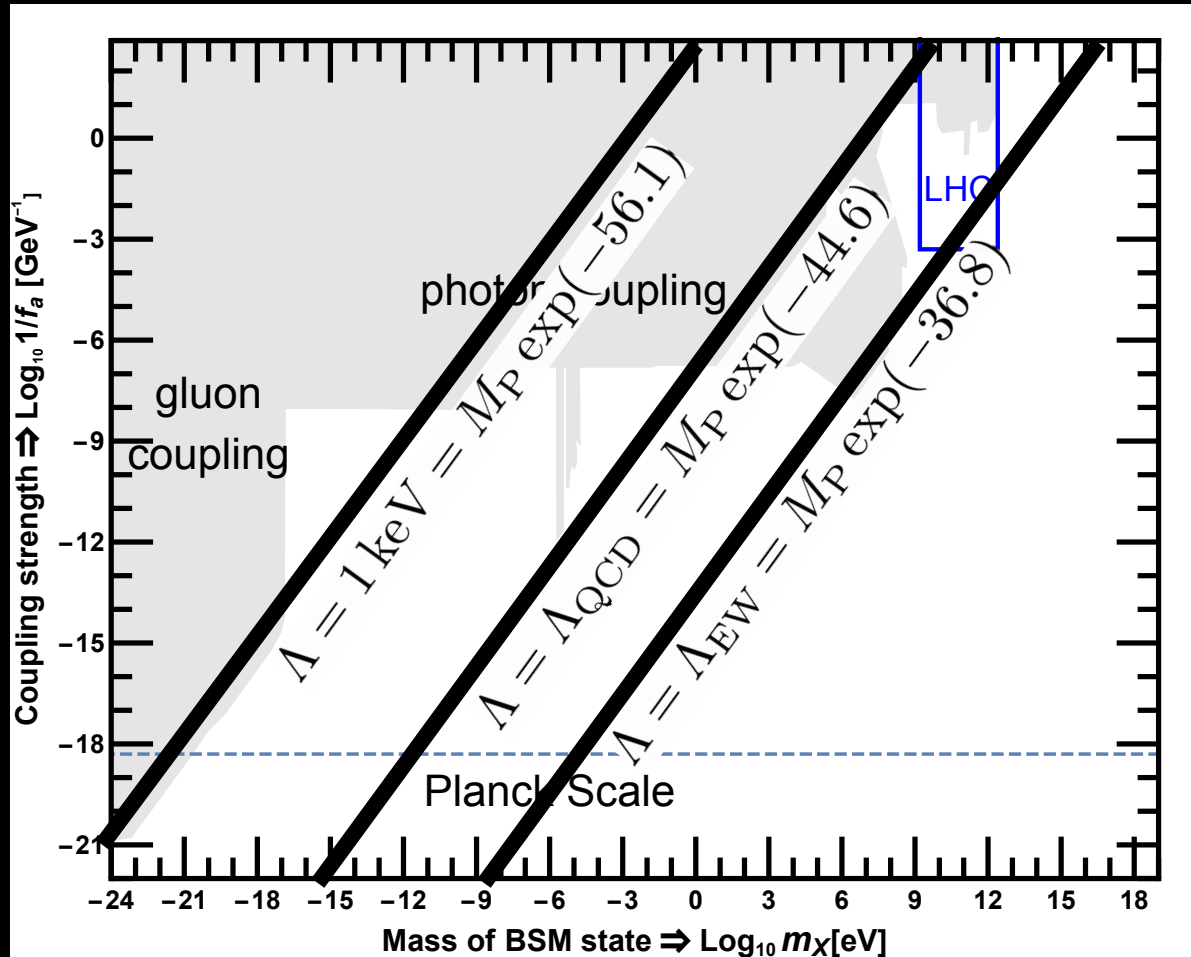


Small coupling



# Target space

High  
mass



Small coupling

Motivation for  
a dark sector III:  
Observational Hints

Hidden/Dark Photons

explain

$(g-2)_\mu$

$(g-2)_\mu$

- The SM predicts the value of the magnetic dipole moment of the muon:

$$\mu_\mu = \frac{e}{2m_\mu} (2 + (g - 2)_\mu)$$

→ Measure and calculate veeery precisely

$$\left( \frac{(g - 2)_\mu}{2} \right)_{\text{exp}} = 11659209.1 \pm 6.3$$

To be halved  
by Fermilab exp.

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1804.07409.pdf>

$$\left( \frac{(g - 2)_\mu}{2} \right)_{\text{th}} = 11659178.3 \pm 4.3$$

improvement  
needed

→ (3-4) $\sigma$  discrepancy

# Hidden Photon interactions

- Kinetic mixing

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} X^{\mu\nu} X_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\chi}{2} F^{\mu\nu} X_{\mu\nu},$$

„Our“ U(1)

„Hidden“ U(1)

Mixing

+ Mass

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 X^\mu X_\mu$$

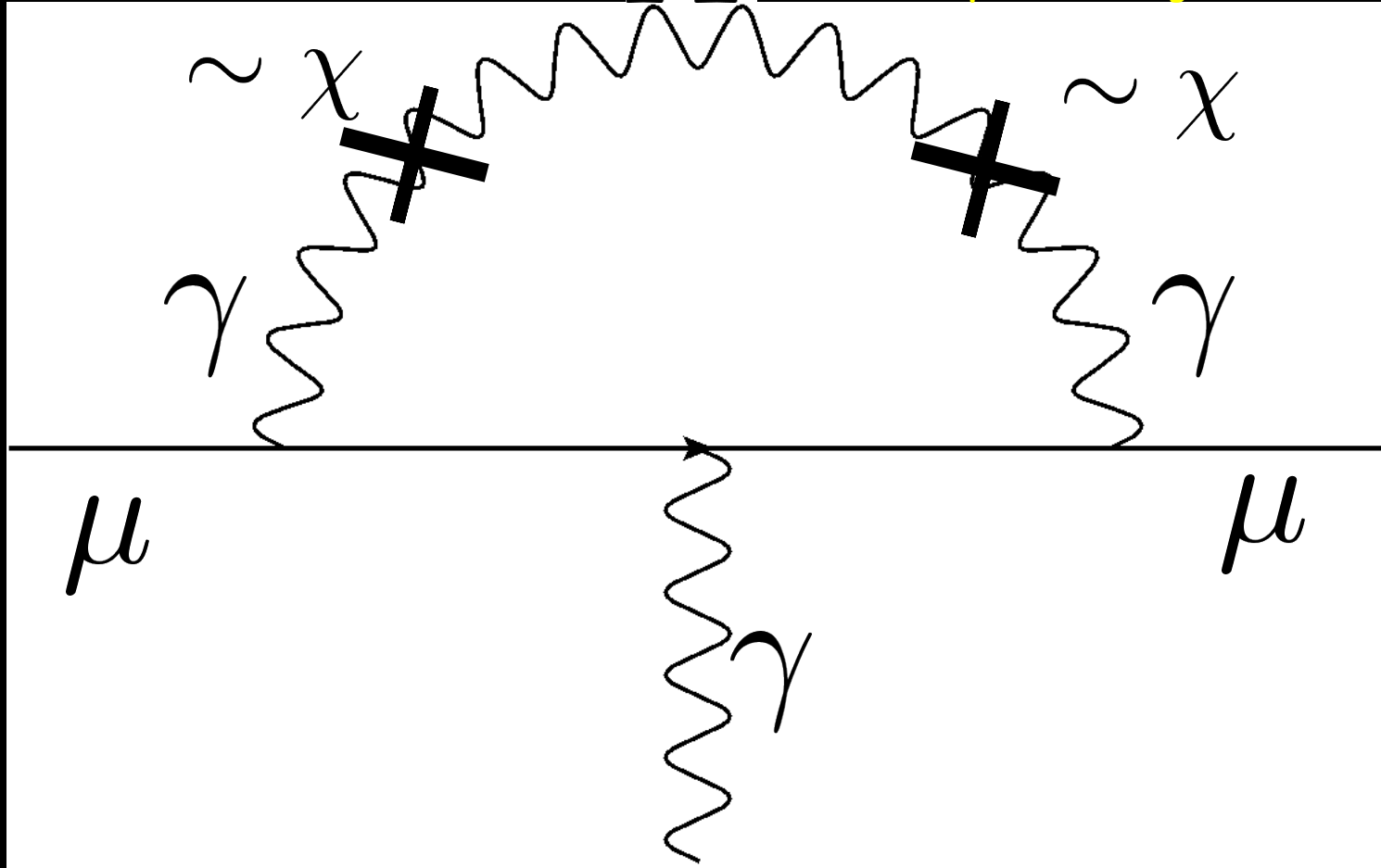


# Hidden/Dark Photon explanation

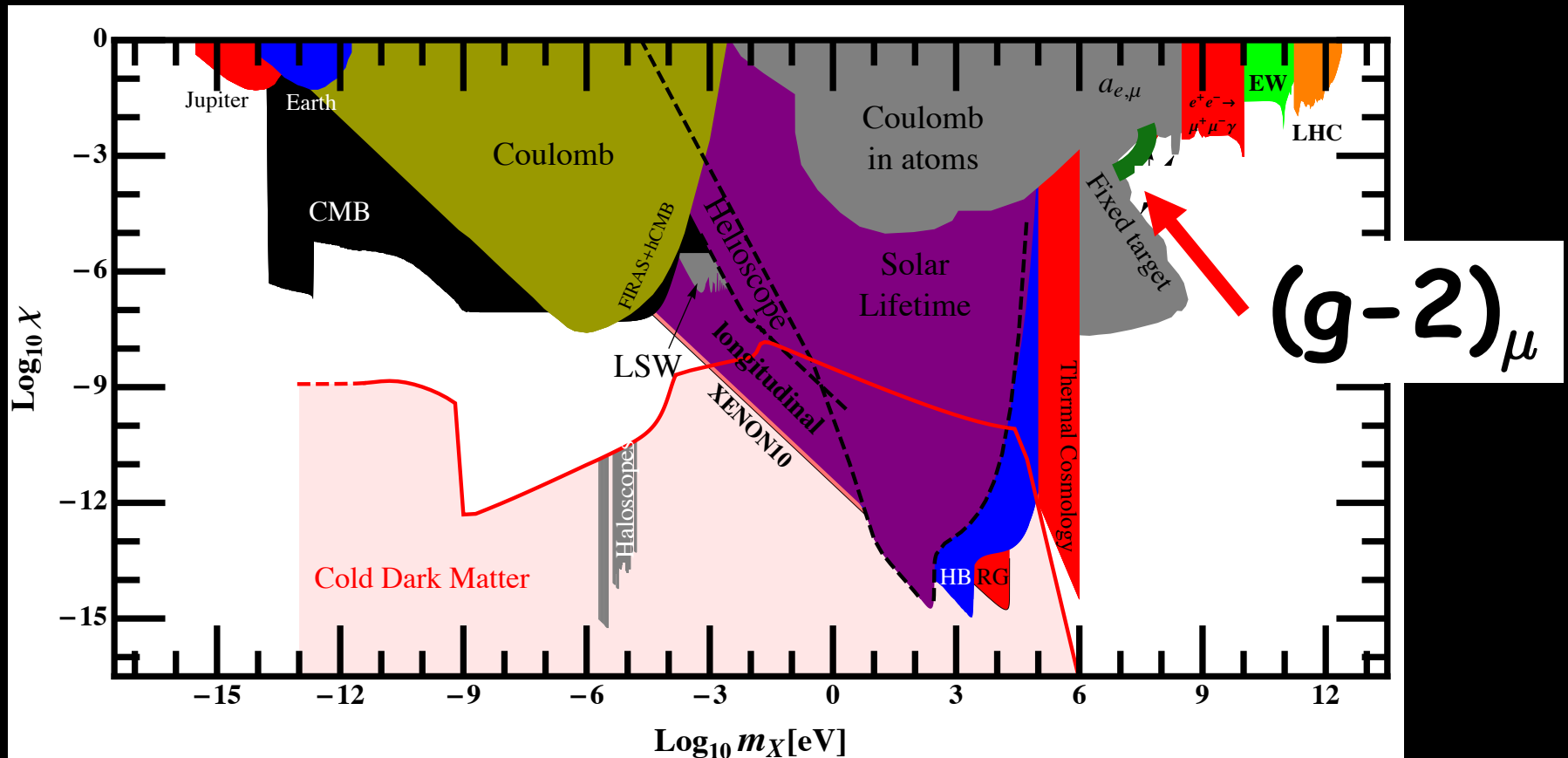
X

M. Pospelov

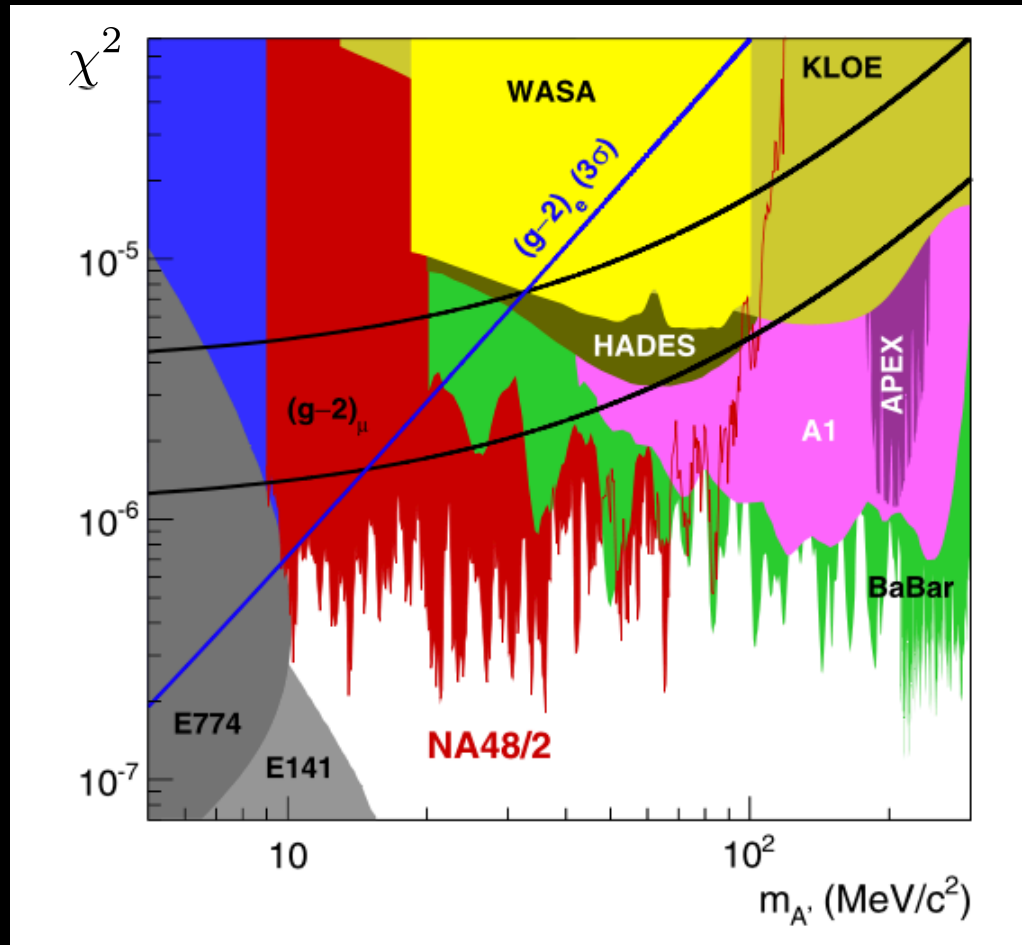
<http://arxiv.org/abs/arXiv:0811.1030>



# Old Plot



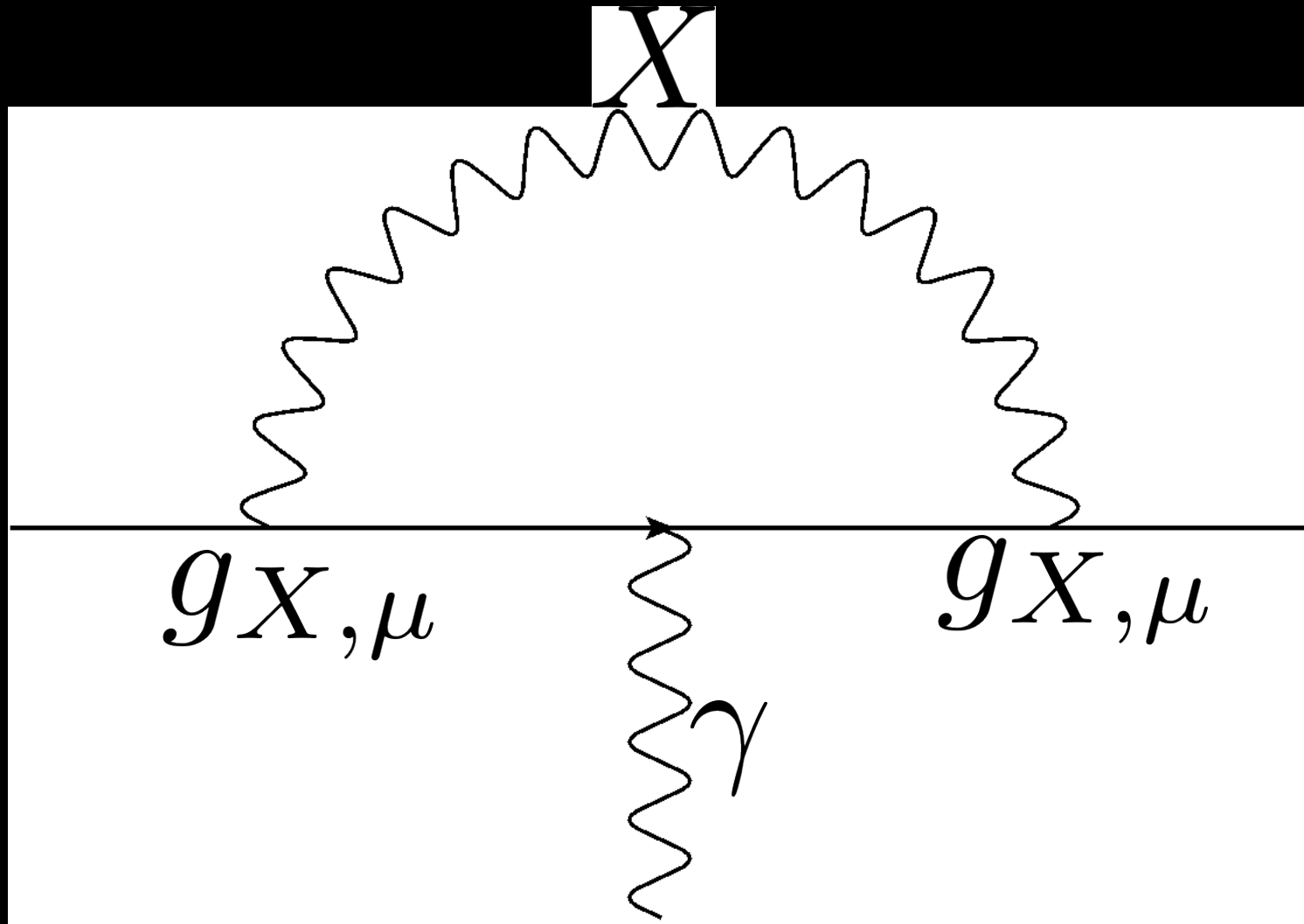
# By now excluded



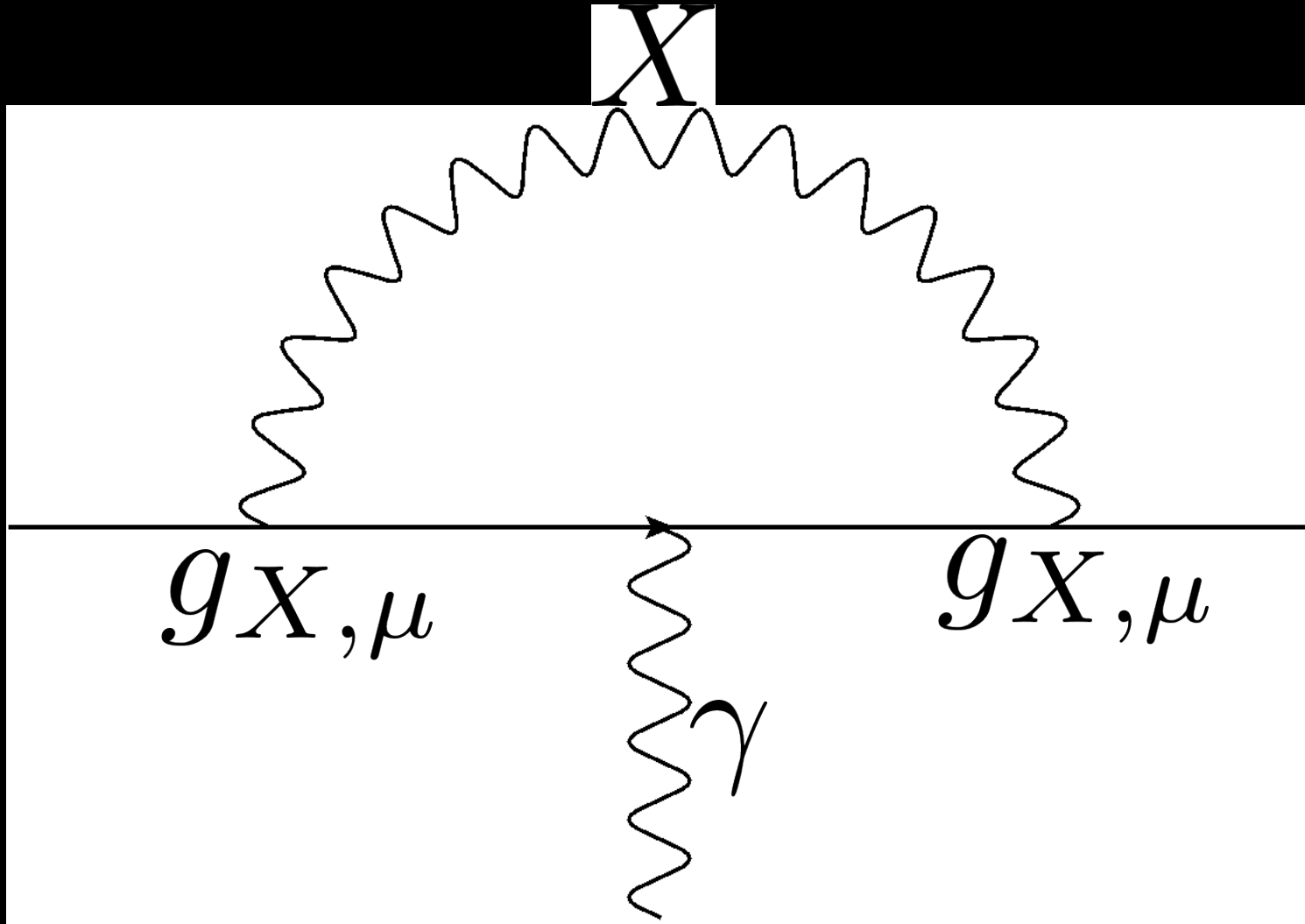
From NA48/2 collaboration  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1504.00607.pdf>



# With flavor dependent coupling still allowed



# With flavor dependent coupling still allowed



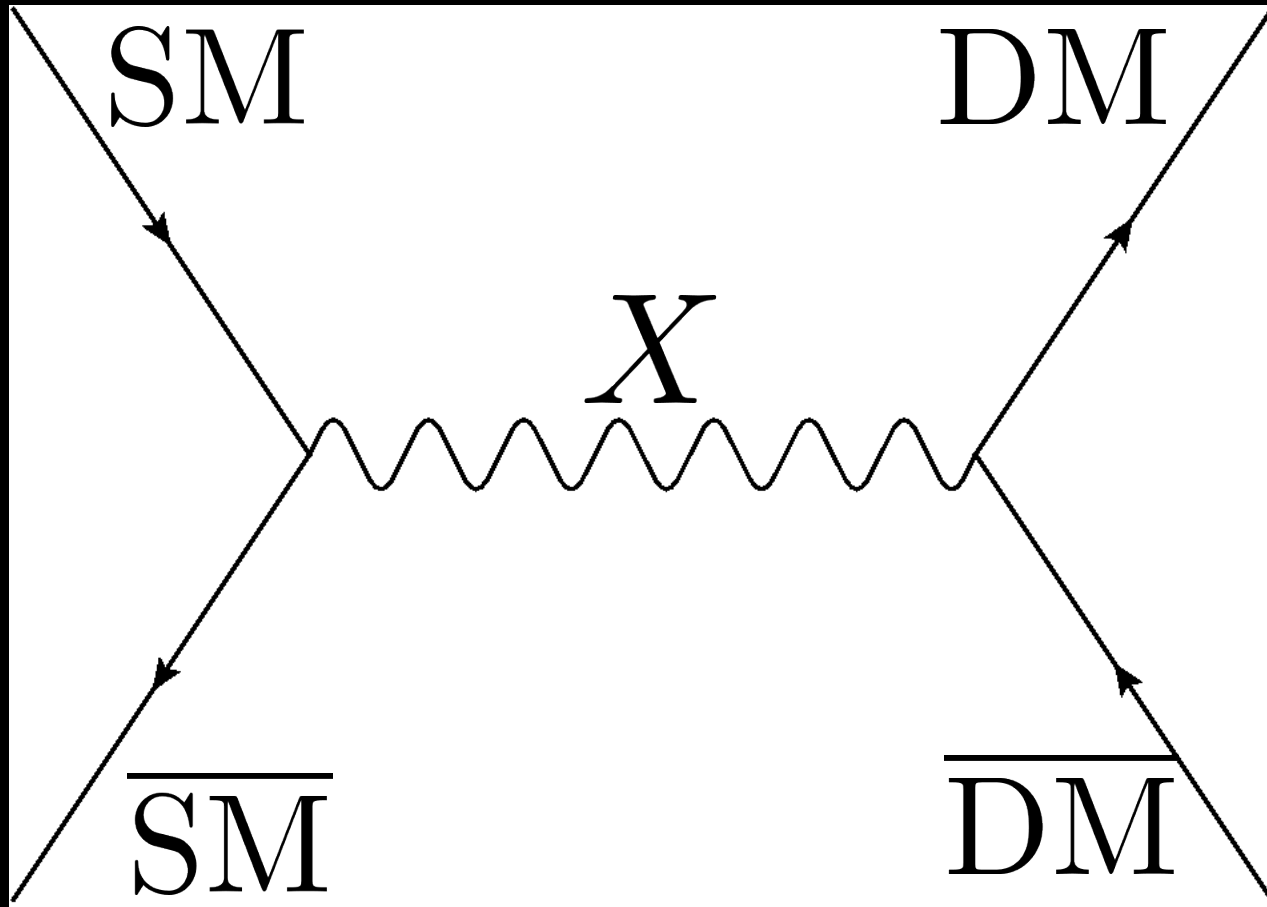
A similar diagram could work for an ALP!

Hidden/Dark photons

as

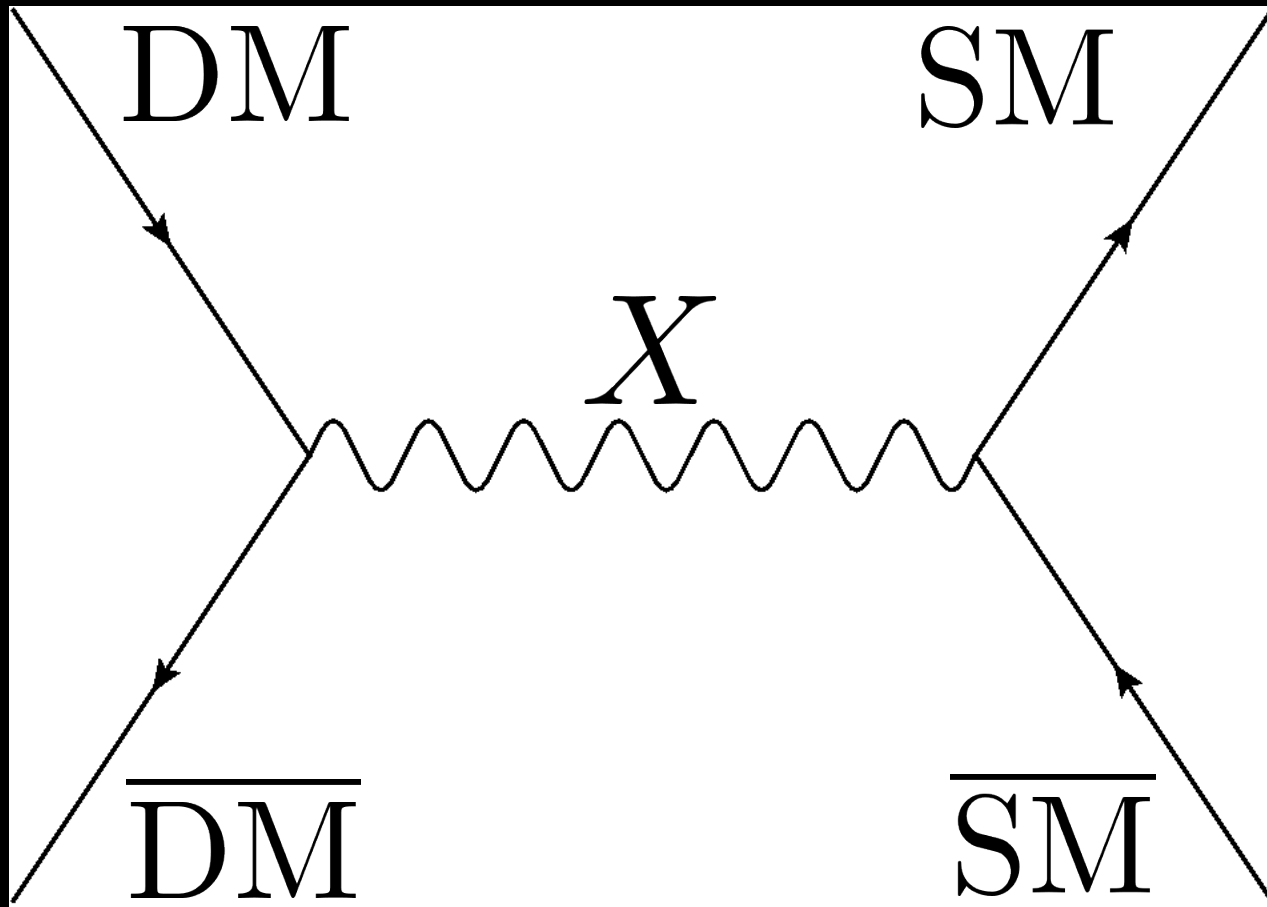
Dark Matter  
messengers

# Messaging

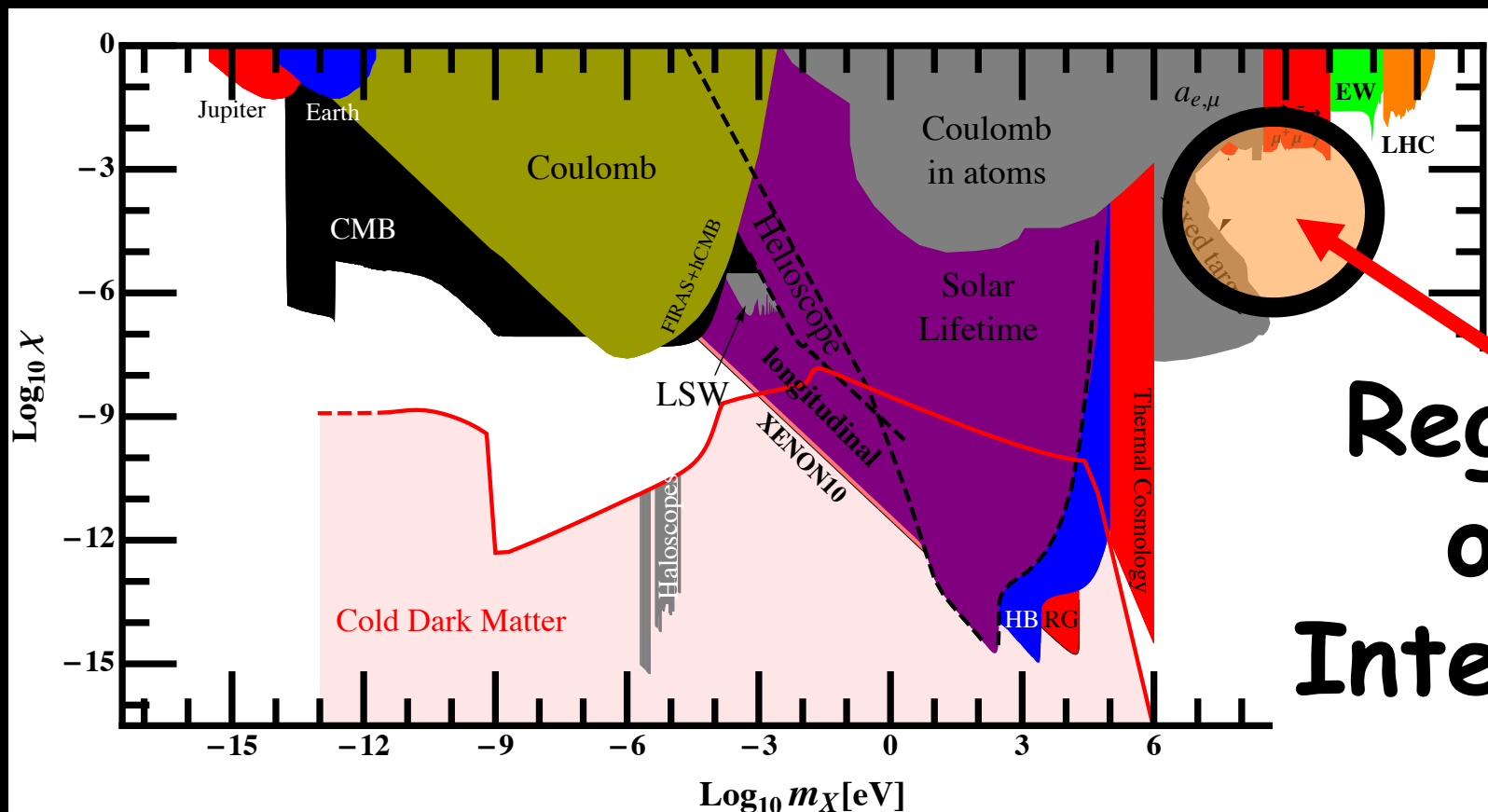


Thermal equilibrium

# Indirect Detection



**Dark Matter annihilation**



**Region  
of  
Interest**

Motivation for  
a dark sector IV:  
Theory

*Axion(-like particles)*



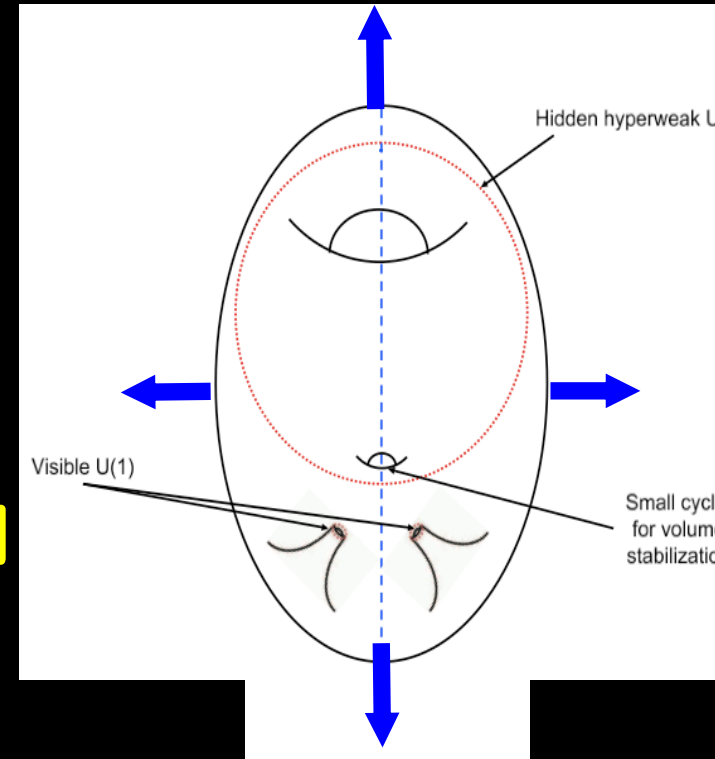
# String theory: Moduli and Axions

- String theory needs Extra Dimensions



Must compactify

- Shape and size deformations correspond to fields:  
**Moduli and Axions**  
Connected to the fundamental scale, here string scale



- Gauge field terms

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{g^2} F^2 + i\theta F \tilde{F}$$

If all couplings are set by field values (+SUSY)

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Re}[f(\Phi)] F^2 + \text{Im}[f(\Phi)] F \tilde{F}$$



Scalar ALP/moduli coupling

+

pseudoscalar  
ALP coupling

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# Axions and Moduli

---

- Gauge couplings always field dependent  
(no free coupling constants)
  - Axions + Moduli always present in String theory
-

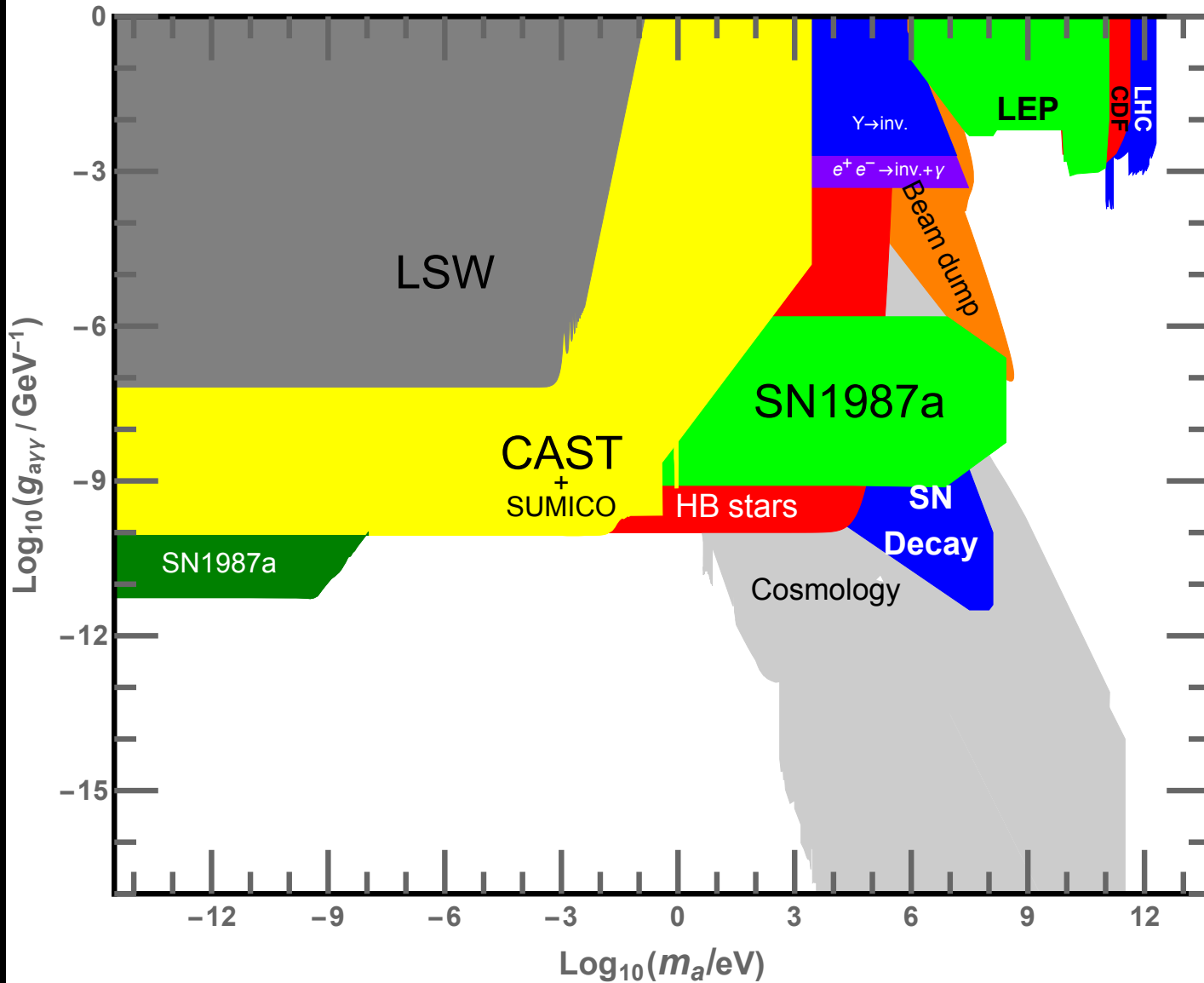
- “Axion scale” related to fundamental scale

$$f_a \sim \frac{M_P}{\text{Volume}^x} \sim M_s \left( \frac{M_s}{M_P} \right)^y$$

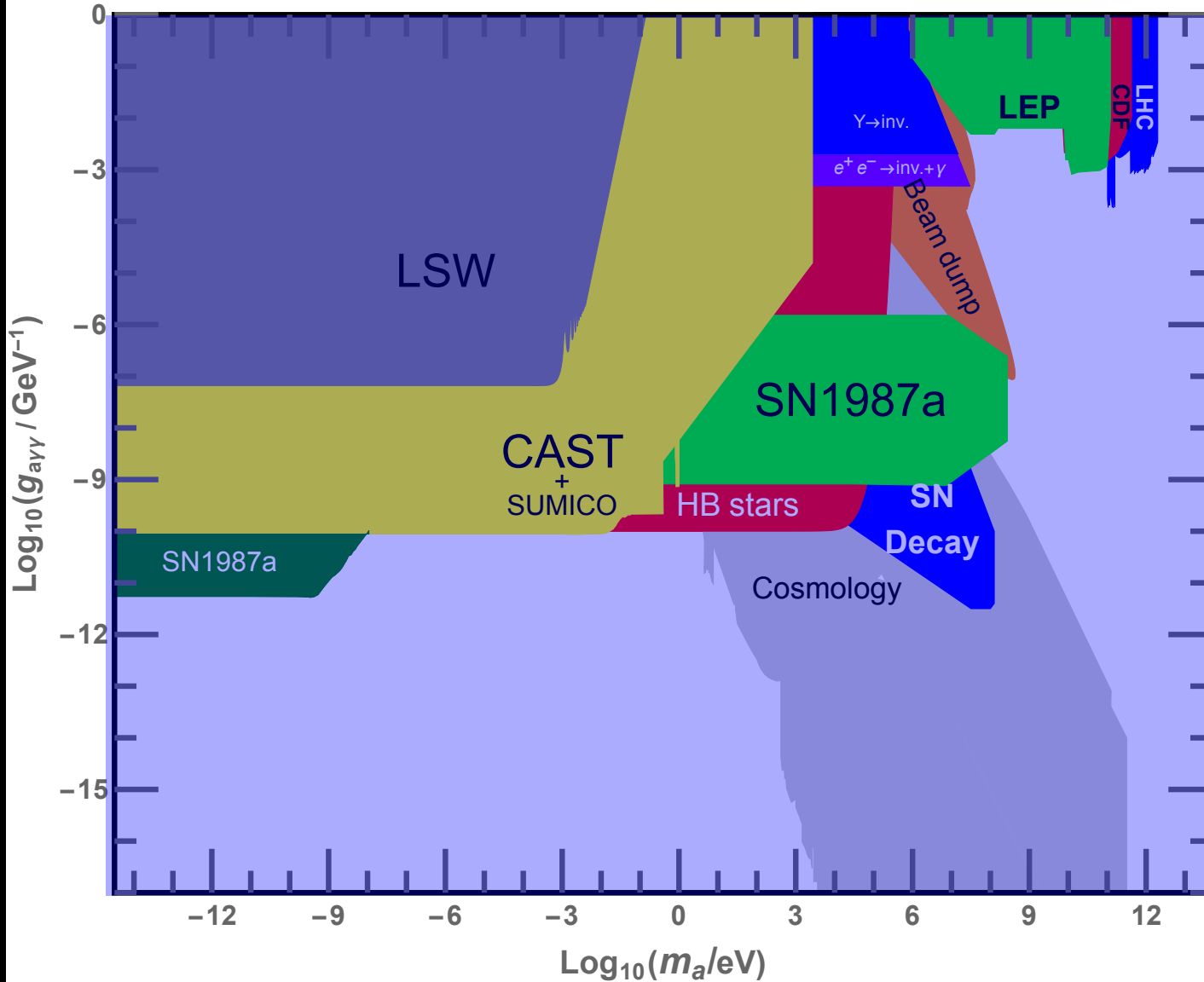
- If QCD axion:  $m_a$  fixed
- However, if not QCD axion

$$m_{\text{ALP}} \sim \frac{\Lambda^2}{f_a} \quad (\text{nearly}) \text{ arbitrary}$$

# Axion (like particles): Where are we?

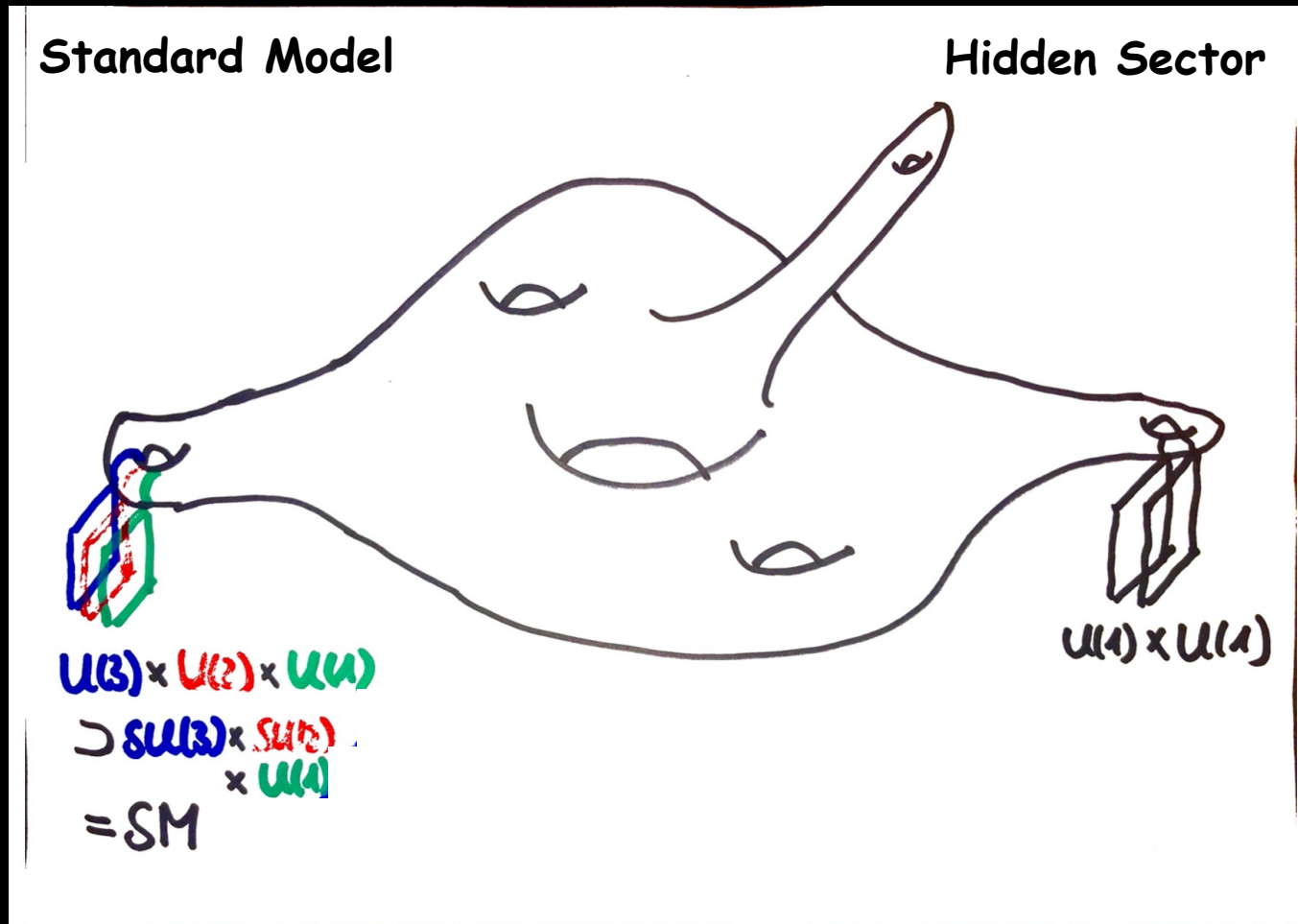


# Axion (like particles): Where are we?



Hidden/Dark Photons  
+  
Hidden Matter

# String theory likes extra gauge groups



➔ Many extra  $U(1)$ s!

➔ Candidates for Hidden Photons



# We want mixing and a mass!

---

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(A)\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F_{(B)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu} + \frac{\chi}{2} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu},$$

„Our“ U(1)

„Hidden“ U(1)

Mixing

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 X^\mu X_\mu$$

---

# Hidden by distance/volume

Standard Model

Hidden Sector



$$U(3) \times U(2) \times U(1)$$

$$\supset SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$$

$$= SM$$

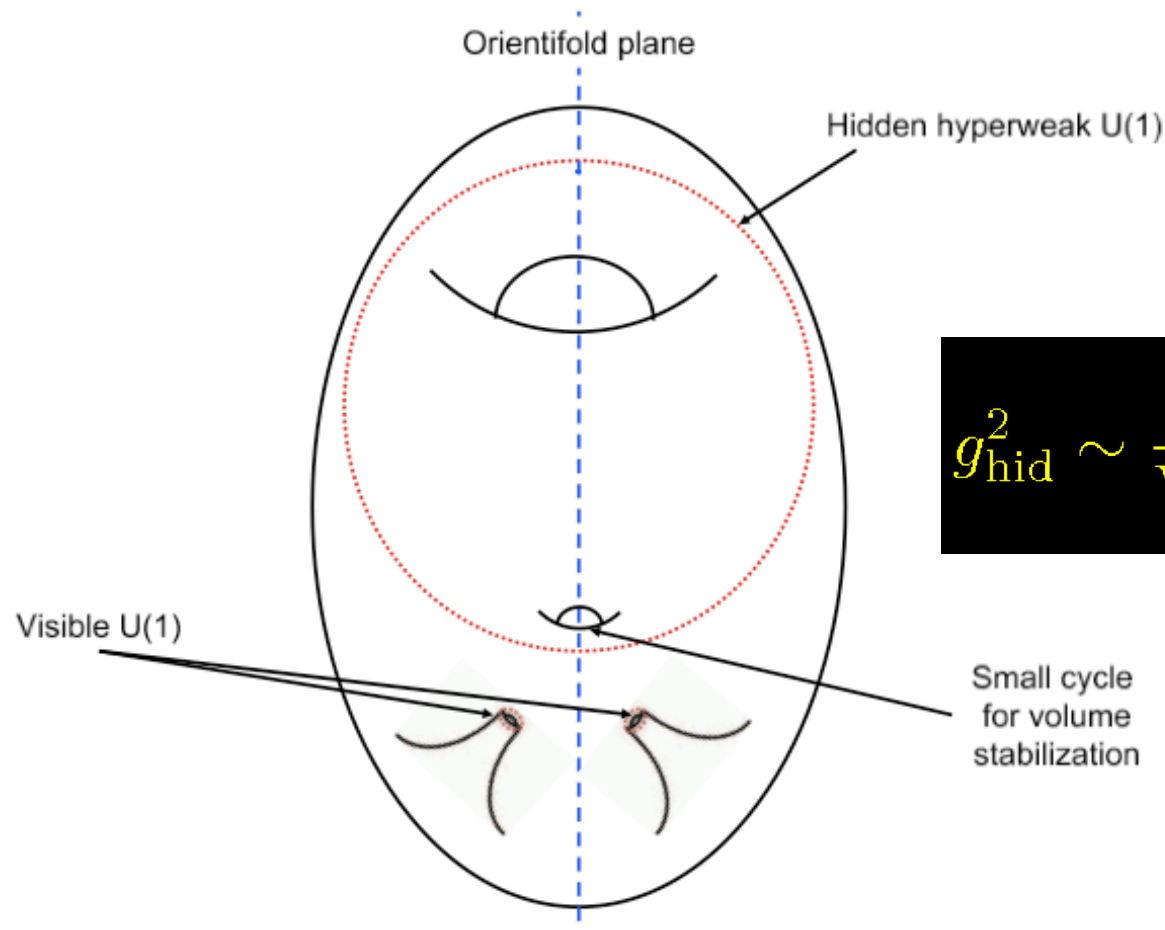
Large Distance

$$U(1) \times U(1)$$

$$\chi \sim \frac{g_s}{8\pi} \frac{1}{Volume^x}$$

$$g_{hid} \sim 1$$

# Hidden by weakness



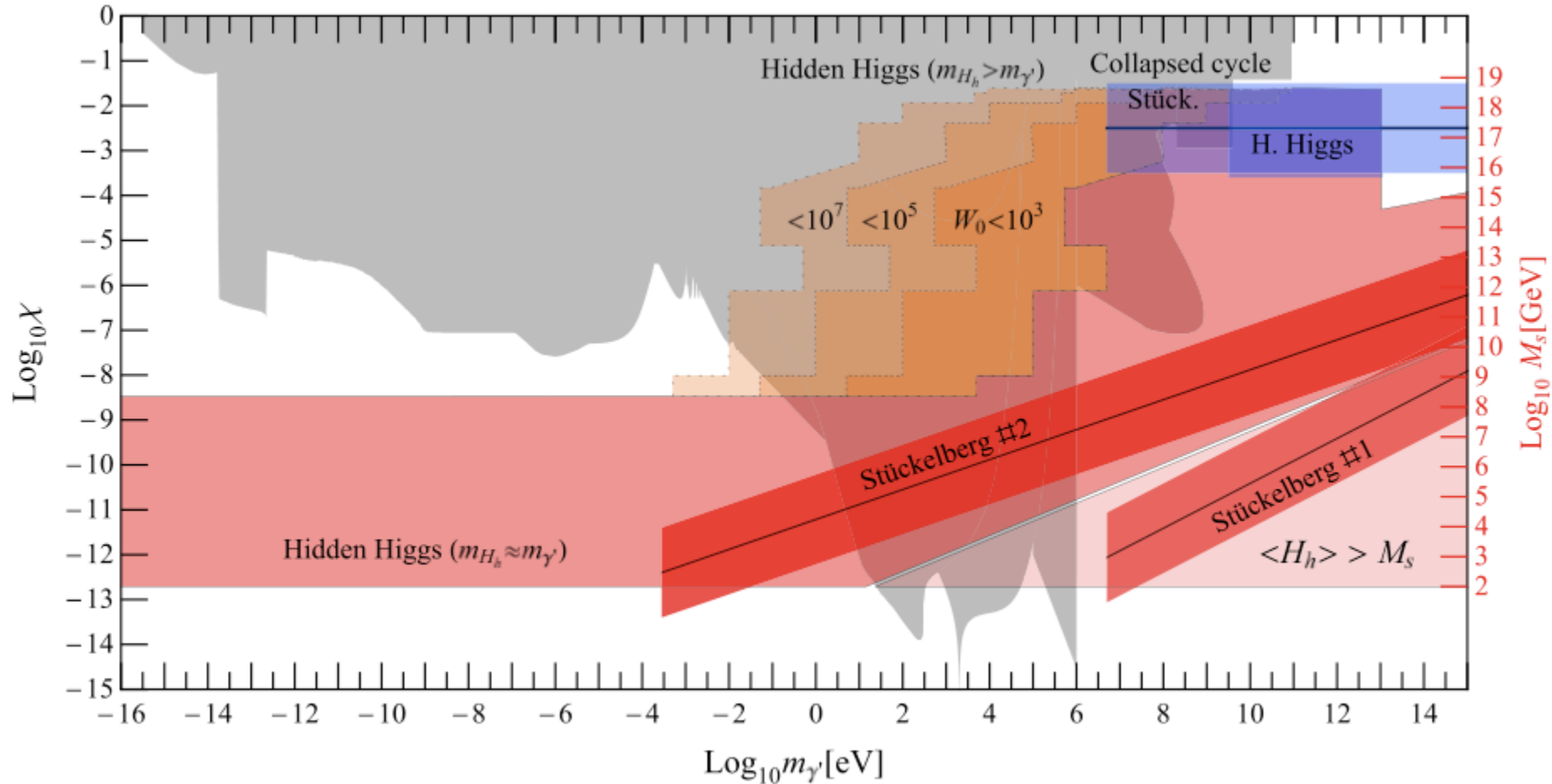
$$g_{\text{hid}}^2 \sim \frac{2\pi g_s}{\text{Volume}^x} \sim \left( \frac{M_s^2}{M_P^2} \right)^x \ll 1$$

$$\chi \sim \frac{g_{\text{vis}} g_{\text{hid}}}{16\pi^2} \sim \frac{2\pi g_s}{\text{Volume}^{x/2}} \sim \left( \frac{M_s^2}{M_P^2} \right)^{x/2} \ll 1$$

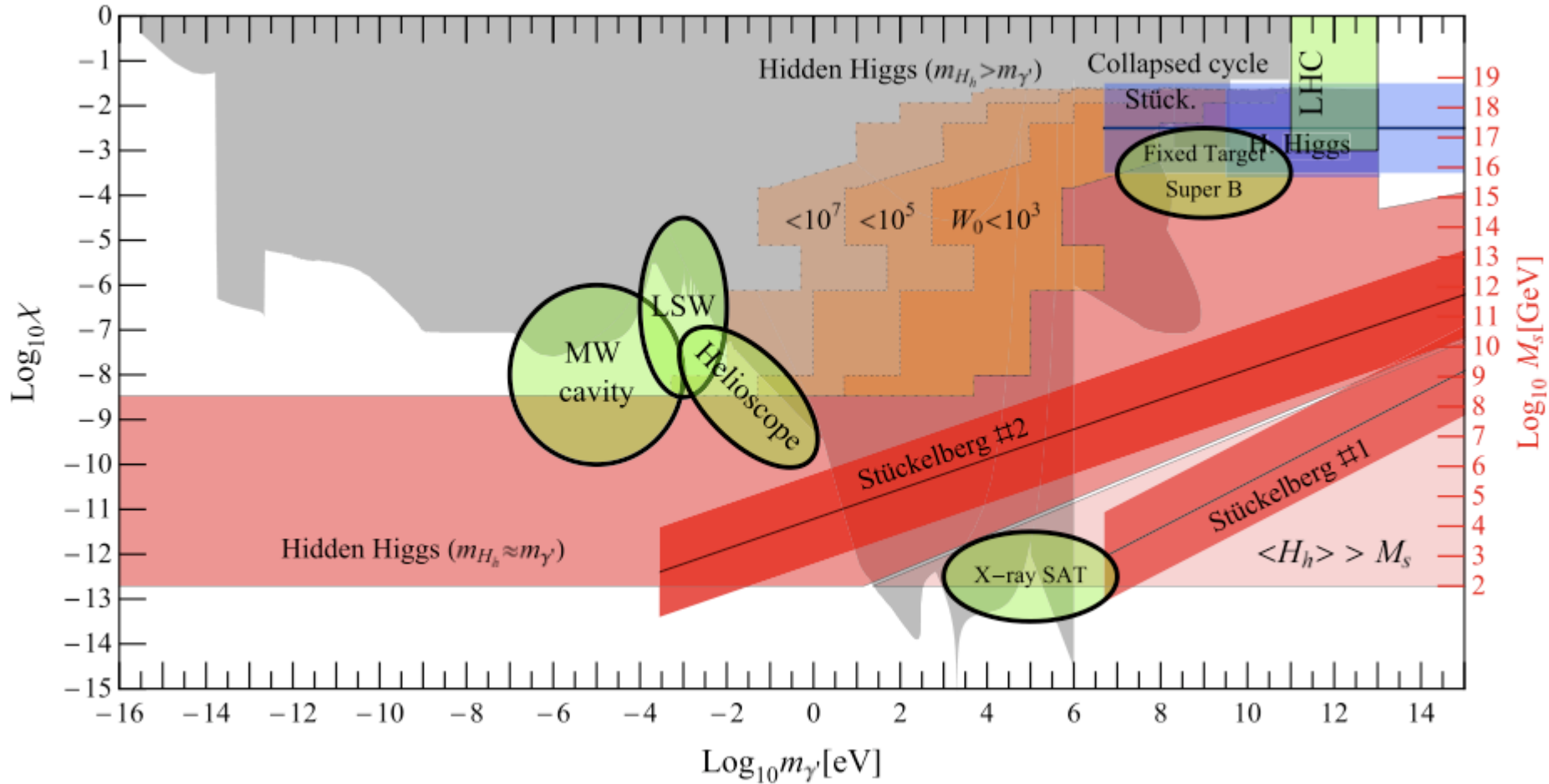
- Higgs and Stueckelberg mechanism possible
- Example: Stueckelberg

$$\begin{aligned} (m_{\gamma'}^{\text{Stueck}})^2 &\sim \frac{g_s}{2} \left( \frac{4\pi}{g_s^2} \frac{M_s^2}{M_P^2} \right)^z \\ &\sim \frac{g_s}{2} \frac{M_s}{\text{Volume}^z}, \quad z = \frac{1}{3}, 1. \end{aligned}$$

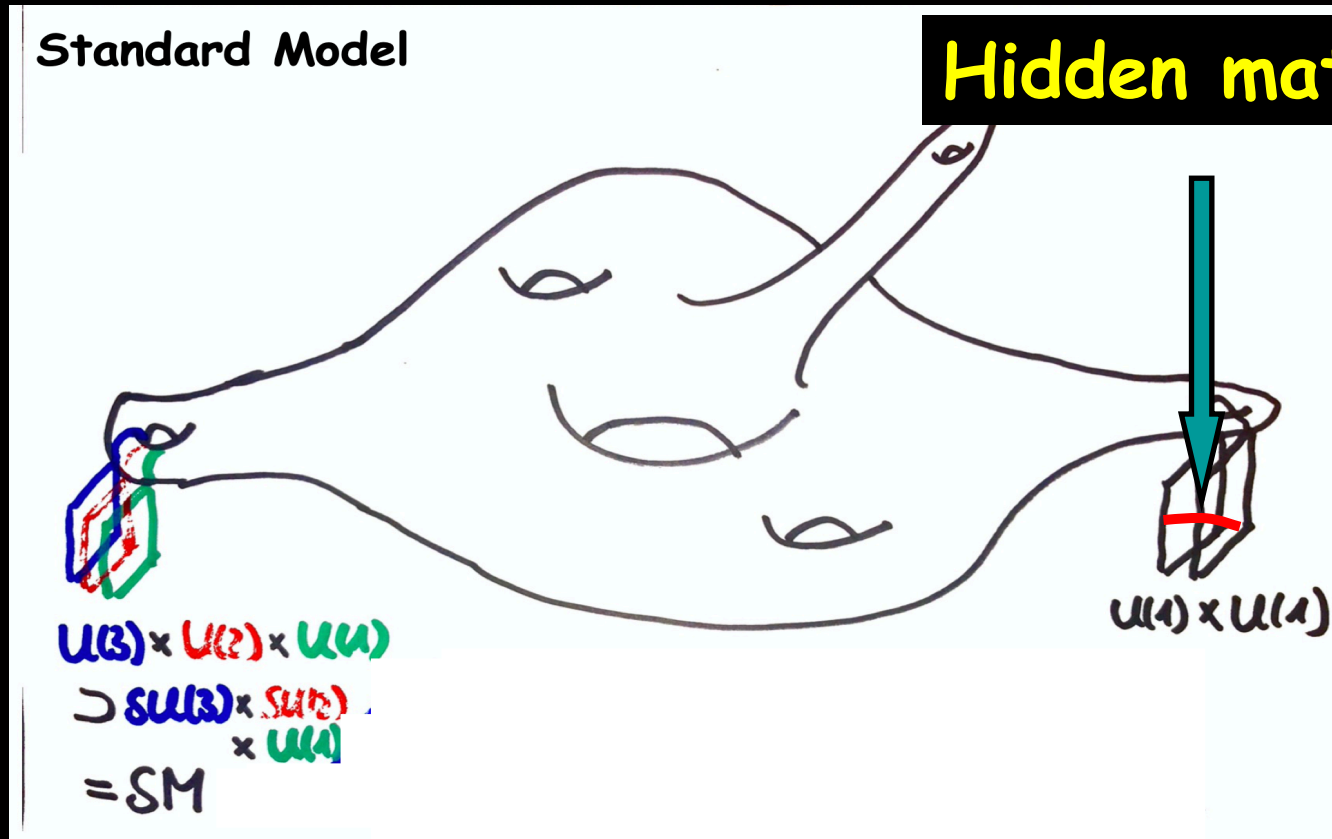
# Hidden Photons, All over the place



# Hidden Photons: Back to Experiment



# String theory likes extra matter



➔ Hidden sector matter

➔ Appears to be minicharged

# How coupled?

- Kinetic mixing

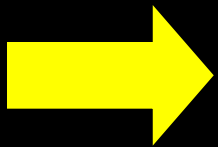
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(A)\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F_{(B)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu} + \frac{\chi}{2} F_{(A)}^{\mu\nu} F_{(B)\mu\nu},$$

„Our“ U(1)

„Hidden“ U(1)

Mixing

+ Matter  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_{\text{hid}} \bar{h} \gamma_{\mu} X^{\mu} h$

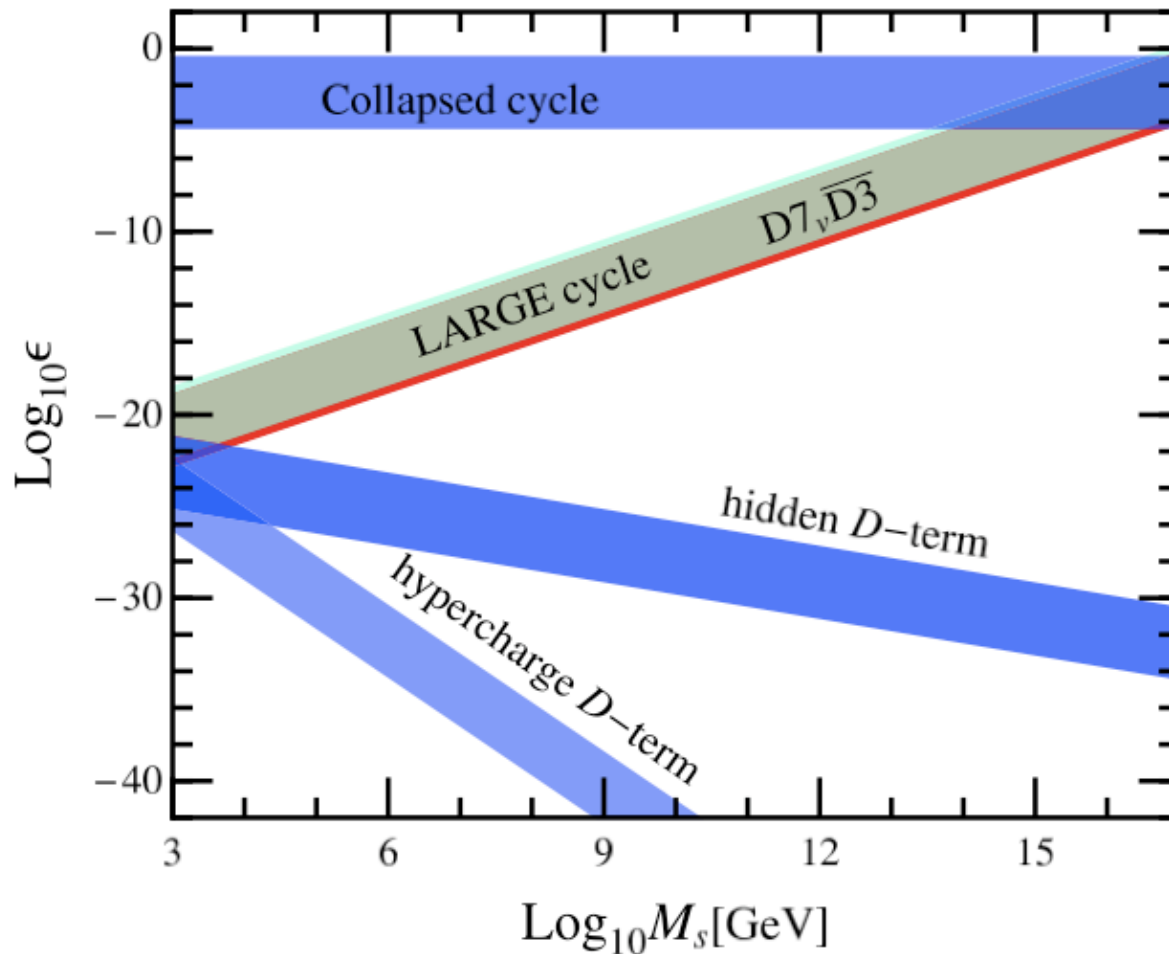


Particles with small electric charges

If X is massive it's DM + massive vector



# Minicharged particles...



**Conclusions**

- Experiments and Observations suggest the existence of a "Dark Sector"
  - Very weakly coupled particles
- Theory allow us to have very weakly coupled particles that are also light!

Examples: Axion(-like particles)  
Hidden/dark photons

# Conclusions

Columbus' Theory: Tenerife - Jakarta ~ 3000 miles  
Actual distance: ~ 7300 miles

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/at-work/test-and-measurement/columbuss-geographical-miscalculations>

Lesson:

Theory doesn't have to be correct  
in order to find something ;-).

→ Go Explore + Be prepared  
for surprises

